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THE LIBRARY JOURNAL

TWICE-A-MONTH | FEBRUARY 1, 1927
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THE PROVIDENCE PUBLIC LIBRARY RECENTLY HAD AN EXHIBIT ILLUSTRATING ITS RESOURCES AND SERVICE IN THE LOBBY OF A LOCAL TRUST COMPANY FOR ONE WEEK AND IN THE WINDOW OF THE PROVIDENCE GAS COMPANY FOR TWO WEEKS. SEE *p.* 131.

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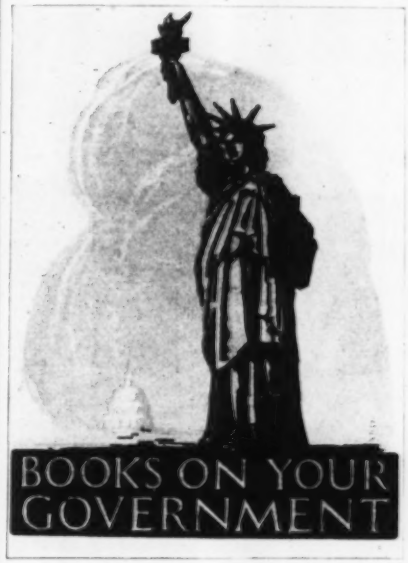

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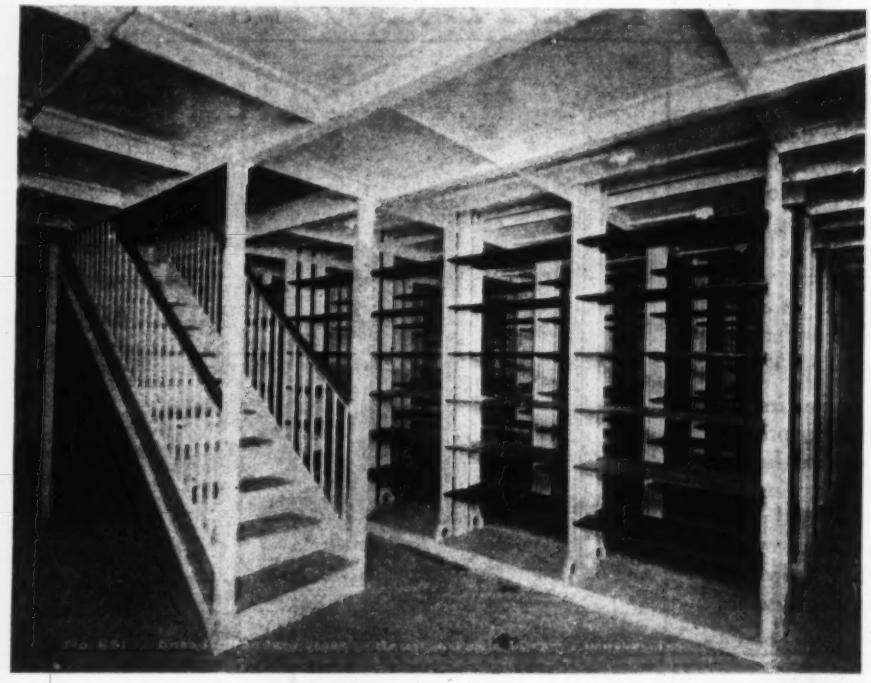

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THE LIBRARY JOURNAL

TWICE-A-MONTH FEBRUARY 1, 1927

The Relative Strength of Advertising Appeals

BY RUTH MUNROE, *New York City*

THE effort to extend the services of the public library to a larger proportion of the community has led to a rapid development of publicity methods adapted to this end. An effective advertising program is of vital concern to the progressive library as well as to the modern business house. To the end of increased efficiency in this direction the Cleveland Public Library has attempted a quantitative study of one phase of its publicity methods, which may not be without some general interest to librarians.

The problem of advertising is first to attract attention and impress the memory, and, second, to arouse desire and action. Frequency and recency, size, movement, color and other devices are employed in the first instance. Their relative effectiveness has been carefully studied by commercial advertisers. The library may take over the results of their experience and research with little change. Of the second aspect of the problem, admittedly the more important, little is accurately known, and that little cannot be applied to the library field without considerable modification. How can we make people *want* to read books? By what arguments can they best be persuaded to come to the public library? Should these arguments be modified for use with particular groups in the community, the foreign born, young people, women?

These questions are of great practical importance. It costs no more to use a good argument than a poor one, yet no other feature of the advertisement contributes as much toward its "pulling power." Most of us realize this, and we all have our guess as to what arguments to use. In this study an attempt is made to check this guess by quantitative measurement, to determine experimentally the relative effectiveness of six popular advertising appeals in getting response from several groups of people in Cleveland.

PROCEDURE

Direct mail advertising was the medium chosen for the study, because it made possible the limitation of the group affected to certain known individuals. Further it provided a means of checking their response with considerable accuracy and detail. The plan, briefly, was to present the six different appeals to various groups in the community independently via letter, and by a study of the response determine which of the appeals were most effective in each group.

A. Preparation of the letters.

Six letter forms were prepared urging membership in the library, similar in every respect except the motive to which appeal was made. The aid of members of the library staff and four professional advertisers was enlisted to secure (1) letters as strong as possible, (2) letters which would be equally forceful for the diverse groups to receive them, (3) letters alike in all respects but the appeal. This last point was of critical importance, since differences in effectiveness were to be ascribed to differences in the appeal alone. Every effort was made to secure uniformity of expression and appearance, and all judges consulted felt that this goal was substantially attained.

Those appeals were chosen which were readily adaptable to the advertisement of books and which struck deepest at some instinctive need. The letters were constructed on the following motives: Practical advancement, social prestige, parental affection, recreation, curiosity, culture, that is æsthetic and intellectual interest. The fifth letter is denominated "question series" in the tables, because psychological analysis of its appeal is not clear. We feel that disinterested curiosity is probably the predominant element, but the reader may make his own judgment on the basis of the letter itself. All the appeals used are employed in all types of advertising.

Each letter was accompanied by a suitable list of books and a list of the branch libraries. The letters were multigraphed on library stationery and personally signed. They were mailed as first class matter.

Below appears in full one of the circular letters:

Dear Friend:

Have you a hobby, an interest in art, drama, poetry, history, the sciences?

Have you ever regretted that you have neither time nor opportunity for these things in the rush of a crowded city?

The PUBLIC LIBRARY can do much to help you. Knowledge is no longer restricted to the few who have leisure for study. Nor are college courses essential to true culture. Books are being written on almost every subject to enable busy people to keep abreast of the times and share the enjoyment of the scholar or artist.

The enclosed list describes a few of the many books with which the Public Library can supply you. The librarian is very glad to give any help you would like in the choice of books, or even to map out a plan of reading if you care to undertake a regular course of study.

We are writing you because we have not found your name on our list of card holders and we feel that perhaps you do not realize how valuable the Library can be to you. The Public Library belongs to you. It offers you books and service without cost and without red tape We hope that you will use it freely from now on.

Sincerely yours,

LINDA A. EASTMAN, *Librarian.*

The Main Library, 325 Superior Avenue, N.E., just East of the Post Office, is open from 9 a.m. to 9:30 p.m.

The enclosed slip gives the addresses of the large branch libraries with names of the librarians and hours of opening. If one of these is more conveniently located for you than the Main Library, we suggest that you call there and ask for the Branch Librarian.

If you will show this letter to any of the assistants at the library she will tell you just what to do in order to take home your books at once.

The other letters differ from this only in the "mode of attack," namely the first two paragraphs.

I

Dear Friend:

Do you want to make money?

Are you on the look out for methods that will make your work pay better? You would surely welcome any suggestions that could be of practical use to you.

Ia

Dear Friend:

Do you want to save your time and money?

Are you on the look out for methods that will lighten your work? You would surely welcome any suggestions that could be of practical use to you.

II

Dear Friend:

Are you one of the few?

Have you noticed how in every group of people a few stand out because of the ease and richness of their conversation? They seem to be at home in every subject and are much admired for their ability to meet any situation successfully

III

Dear Friend:

Are your children growing up as you want them to?

Are they as healthy and fine and happy as you can make them? It is often very hard to bring up youngsters in a crowded city.

IV

Dear Friend:

Do you like a good time?

Have you ever tried to get it by reading about interesting people and their doings—about travellers in the South Seas, a perfect butler on a desert island, Sherlock Holmes, or the Duke of Buckingham abducting a popular actress?

V

Dear Friend:

Do you know—

1. How long man has probably been on this earth?
2. Did Darwin say man sprang from monkeys?
3. How do we know what the sun is made of?
4. What is a flying buttress?
5. What are the advantages of the Federal Reserve banking sysetem?
6. How does our government get its money?
7. What is meant by "complex," "I. Q.", "vitamin," "capitalism," "fascism"?

The answers to these questions and many others which occur to you are to be found in the books described in the enclosed list. The Public Library can supply you with these books and many others on live subjects.

B. Preparation of lists of prospective borrowers.

In the preparation of the lists of prospective borrowers the utmost care was exercised to secure groups that should be typical or at least well defined, and groups that should be comparable with each other. Where no serious deviation from the actual composition of the Cleveland population was involved, the first requirement was sacrificed to the second.[1] Negroes, Hebrews,[2] native born white, foreign born Czechs, Italians, and Germans were studied. The great bulk of all the groups was taken from the middle class: artisans, clerks, small proprietors of the male sex. In addition a group of important business and professional men was formed, consisting of Americans and a proportion of foreign born comparable to that in the entire city according to the census of 1920. Similarly a group of laborers was drawn up. A group of women of the middle class completed the list. About six thousand individuals were listed, in most cases with information as to age, place of origin, occupation, marital condition, number of children and date of arrival in the United States.

The sources from which these names were drawn are as follows: Naturalization records for 1924, a few national societies and churches, the Negro Welfare Association and social settle-

[1] A detailed account of the precautions observed would be too cumbersome for this paper. Readers desiring further information on the procedure thruout are referred to the Cleveland Public Library.

[2] The Hebrew group has been treated separately thruout since it was impossible to construct a list of individuals of social status comparable to the other groups. There are relatively few Jewish artisans of American birth in Cleveland. An effort to make the proportion similar to that of the other groups by rejecting individuals of the "white collar" class beyond their quota (our procedure in constructing the other lists) would have created a distinctly typical group of Hebrews, even supposing artisans in sufficient numbers had been available.

ments, the birth records for 1924, the Y. M. C. A. and the Y. W. C. A. Precautions were taken to avoid special cases as noted above. It is felt that within the limits described above the individuals chosen are typical of the larger groups which they represent in the study.

The entire list was then carefully divided into six groups corresponding to the letter forms. The following points were satisfied: (1) the groups must be as nearly as possible equivalent as to race, age, sex and occupation; (2) classification made on these points, names must be assigned to the various groups entirely at random (actually by proceeding mechanically 1, 2, 3, 1, 5, 6, 1, 2, 3, . . . thru the piles of cards). Thus to each individual was assigned a single letter, and each letter reached a comparable group of individuals. Further each racial, occupational, and age group was divided into six comparable age groups.

The list was then compared with the membership file at the Main Library where all cardholders thruout the system are registered. All individuals already holding a card were rejected. All individuals of the same name living at the same address were noted.

C. Mailing of the letters.

The letters were sent out at intervals during April, May, and June of 1925. The library moved into its new building on May 5, 1925. The effect of this coincidence can only be conjectural. On the one hand the extensive general publicity probably materially increased the response to the letters. On the other hand the main library was a rather inhospitable, busy place at a time when many of those addressed would have come to it. In the branches only the favorable aspect would obtain. In point of fact the response to the branches exceeded that to the main library. The response was greatest in May and June, with a slight spurt in September and October. The total response was thirteen per cent of all persons actually receiving a letter. While the use of this type of advertising for libraries is too special to afford parallel cases, comparison with response to commercial advertising suggests that this percentage is rather high.

D. Checking the response.

In December the list of names was again revised and all those cases rejected in which the letter was returned by the post office because of removal. The list then totalled about 4,900. This list was again compared with the membership file. Each name now appearing in the file was considered a "success." The date and place of registration were noted on the card. Newly registered individuals of the same surname living at the same address were also noted. All other cases were considered "failures."

Undoubtedly many of the "successes" would have come to the library without the stimulus of the letter received, and probably some of the "failures" came to read at the library without registering as borrowers, or obtained books on the card of a friend. Such cases however would be evenly distributed thruout the groups studied and would not influence the *differences* in response to the letters.

Results

From the mass of data, race groups were made up comparable as to occupation, age, and sex. Then occupational groups were formed, comparable as to race, age, and sex composition. Next the two age groups were formed from all those cases where age was known. Finally the two sex groups were constructed comparable with each other in all other respects. In each group as it was formed the cards were redivided into the six letter groups, the total number in each group and the response or number of successes counted and recorded, and the percentage response calculated to the nearest whole number. These data may be seen in Table I. A rank

TABLE I

	Practical		Social Prestige		Parental		Recreational Question Series				Cultural		Total	
	Cases	Response	Cases	Response	Cases	Response	Cases	Response	Cases	Response	Cases	Response	Cases	Response
Germans	91	13	100	13	107	19	92	5	98	9	103	9	591	11
Italians	101	6	102	6	134	19	105	12	98	6	106	10	646	10
Czechs	109	15	107	11	113	24	109	12	108	7	112	6	658	13
Negroes	66	8	61	33	56	25	54	3	54	9	57	10	348	14
Hebrews	77	26	63	20	80	28	76	10	73	14	75	20	440	17
Native born Americans	118	24	118	14	122	14	111	12	109	10	118	9	696	13
Men	135	20	127	13	116	16	140	11	137	8	125	6	780	12
Women	118	15	112	14	97	17	124	28	129	10	112	8	698	15
Under 35	396	22	376	17	379	27	384	15	383	8	289	7	2307	16
Over 35	246	9	252	11	253	20	250	9	243	13	234	6	1478	11
Laborers	64	0	66	9	73	25	63	7	57	2	67	1	390	7
Artisans	267	7	246	13	270	20	267	10	230	8	251	6	1531	10
Clerks, etc.	209	40	211	26	236	17	237	15	209	13	221	7	1320	19
Proprietors	95	15	96	5	91	29	102	13	88	8	100	8	460	13
Business and professional	79	19	73	17	74	24	71	18	85	38	86	38	468	25
Total	785	17	780	14	836	21	770	11	768	8	801	7	4900	13

distribution was then drawn up (Table II) by assigning a rank of 1 to the letter receiving the highest percentage of successes within each

TABLE II

	Practical	Social Prestige	Parental	Recreational	Question Series	Cultural
Germans	2.5	2.5	1	6	4.5	4.5
Italians	5	5	1	2	5	3
Czechs	2	3.5	1	3.5	5	6
Negroes	5	1	2	6	3.5	3.5
Hebrews	2	3.5	1	6	5	3.5
Nat. born Americans	1	3	2	4	5.5	5.5
Men	2	3	1	4	5	6
Women	2.5	4	2.5	1	5	6
Under 35	2	3	1	4	5.5	5.5
Over 35	4.5	3	1	4.5	2	6
Laborers	5.5	2	1	3	4	5.5
Artisans	4.5	2	1	3	4.5	6
Clerks, etc.	1	2	3	4	5	6
Proprietors	2	6	1	3	4.5	4.5
Business & Professional	5	5	3	5	1.5	1.5
Total	2	3	1	4	5	6

group, a rank of 2 to the next highest, and so on. Where the difference between the two groups was so small as to seem unreliable an intermediate rank was assigned to both.*

Several minor points of interest may be reported here. The percentage of cases in which some other member of the family is already using the library was found to be twenty in the group of failures and only nine in the group of successes. The inference is that books were obtained thru this member of the family in many cases, of that second hand acquaintance with the library diminished interest in the appeals received.

The cases in which some other member of the family, but not the individual addressed took out a new card after the letter was received are distributed almost equally thruout the groups. This suggests that the letters had no very marked effect beyond the individuals addressed or that such effect is obscured by the large numbers of children joining the library for other reasons.

The proportion of each group already using the library is significant. The order for the various racial group follows closely the order for size of response to our advertising as it appears in table I.

Discussion of Results

Comparison of the order of effectiveness of these six appeals with lists of "instincts" in order of strength found in books on psychology and with such meager experimental data as exist, shows a general similarity. The essential cravings for the welfare of offspring and physical comfort come first. Intellectual and aesthetic interests are of late development in the race. That they have little motive force in the average man is corroborated by these findings. In a general way it would seem that the biological necessities of our existence determine even so remote and modern an event as response to the advertising of books.

The outstanding feature of the study is the marked success of the parental appeal. Nearly three times as many people responded to this letter as to the "culture" letter. The groups least accustomed to the use of the library were the most affected. This is notably true of the foreign born. Their problem is probably more acute than that of native parents and the library should welcome their eagerness to seek aid in its solution. This work has been neglected by much library publicity. The opportunity seems excellent not only for introducing more people to the use of books, but for genuine helpfulness in the problem of rearing their children.

The strength of the practical and social appeals has been recognized by commercial advertisers of correspondence courses, "Five foot shelves," etc. The library has made relatively small use of these motives, especially the desire for social prestige which ranks high in many groups. The practical appeal, it will be noticed, ranks high in the clerical and higher occupations, but is weak in the class of laborers, both general and skilled. Doubtless this is due to the commodity offered. A book is the last thing a laborer would consider useful in his trade and in most cases his scepticism would be proper. Clerical workers on the other hand learned their trade from books, and can really obtain valuable information from further reading.

The low standing of the recreational appeal is somewhat surprising in view of the flourishing fiction sections of all libraries and the constant emphasis such reading has received. It must be held in mind that this study is not concerned with the question "why people read," but how they can be persuaded to read. It is safe to assume that a large proportion of the foreign born groups and many Americans do not read books at all and have few preconceived ideas about the uses of a public library, that peculiarly American institution. Reading for recreation would not appear to them more natural than

* The degree of statistical reliability assignable to these figures is difficult to determine. A check on this point was attempted as follows: the entire group "American" born was alphabetized to insure a characteristic distribution of successes, and then divided so that two equivalent "samplings" were obtained. Each group was then treated as before, redivided into the six sub-groups averaging in this case about 55 cases each. The percent response was calculated for each sub-group. This figure was found to vary by no more than 2% in any group from that obtained in the equivalent group of artizans, 1500 cases. The obtained sub-groups averaged about 100 cases each. The calculated percentages varied by not more than 1% from each other or from the combined group. In all probability the percentages given in the table may be considered accurate to +2% where the number of cases is 50, and to 1 per cent where the number of cases is 100.

reading for the welfare of their children, perhaps rather the contrary. Among the women, predominantly American, this appeal leads, not probably because American women care less for their children than, say, Czech carpenters, but because they are already familiar with the novel as a means of entertainment.

The device of a series of piquant questions has been popular in commercial advertising. Its success in this case is small except for the most highly educated groups. Perhaps another set of questions would be differently received. The analysis of this letter and its response is very uncertain. Our findings suggest that disinterested curiosity about general questions is not a cogent motive for seeking a library in the majority of cases.

The cultural appeal seems to have little persuasive power except in the highly educated group. This finding does not of course imply that publicity efforts in this direction are out of order. On the contrary books of this nature need boosting just because most people are not spontaneously interested in them and we have enough of the missionary spirit to feel they should be brought to read them. The task of the library is not only to satisfy but to create the popular demand for "culture."

Such publicity however cannot be the first contact of the library with non-readers. It must work upon individuals already accustomed to the use of books. It is relatively unsuccessful in reaching new and untrained members of the community. For most of these the idea of reading must be tied up with a vital need in order to seem worth looking into.

Conclusion

The limitations of such a study are many. We can be certain only that in 1925 certain groups of individuals responded thus to six letters. We can further hold with some assurance that this response is typical of the Cleveland population as a whole, and that another "sampling" would react in substantially the same way. We believe that the differences in response noted are due primarily to differences in the argument employed. In this case we would expect the arguments to retain their order of forcefulness when transferred to other media such as poster advertising, newspaper articles and the like. Since Cleveland is a fairly typical American city with a large foreign population, it is probable that these results would hold approximately for similar communities thruout the country. The results are chiefly valuable because no other study of the sort has been made in this field. It is further hoped that both method and results may be suggestive of further work along the same line.

President Locke Tells Publishers of Library Needs

"As a librarian," said Dr. George H. Locke, president of the A. L. A., at the annual meeting of the National Association of Book Publishers, held in New York on January 18, "I object to the standard price of novels when there are no standard novels. The price is the same for the inferior as for the superior, which is impossible in other material products. There is a very decided waste from our standpoint when confronted with twenty novels offered us by a publisher of which some six only can be used to advantage in our work—I mean to the advantage of our reading public.

"The question that naturally arises is, why publish the others? If necessary to publish to make a list, why not discriminate and publish some at lower rates. They die soon, these bundles of repressed emotion, but we are supposed to buy them and bear the loss when they die prematurely. A library should not be a cemetery.

"Another aspect is the astounding difference in price of the various memoirs and biographies now flooding the market. We think we have gone a long way from the 'padded poets' of our youth, but we have transferred the padding from the binding to the contents, and with thick paper of doubtful value we have padded not only the book but the price.

"I have said nothing about the padding by the author. That is another story which the publisher has to pass on, and he has a way of doing it successfully if he will—to the author. This makes it difficult for the very people who ought to read these books to possess copies.

"There certainly must be a way of discouraging the publication of these dull biographies which kill the market for things really worth while. This is the point of view of a librarian who is anxious to have as many people as possible read as good books as possible.

"It isn't a censor of books that have been published that is so necessary as a censorship of manuscripts which threaten to become books."

The first issue of the *Florida Library Bulletin* is at hand. It will be issued at intervals from Orlando under the editorship of Olive Brumbaugh, and takes rank at once as one of the most typographically attractive and carefully edited of state library bulletins. The first issue extends to sixteen pages, largely devoted to news from the library field—district meetings, training facilities, and the outlook for library legislation. The present law to establish a state library needs to be put into action. Further legislation may be necessary.

School Library Publicity

By VIRGINIA McMASTER
Librarian of the Senior High School, New Castle, Pa.

PUBLICITY is no modern invention. It is as old as the history of man, springing from his desire that other men should know his deeds, and approve. This desire of man to be known among his fellows, and remembered by succeeding generations, gave us the arts—architecture, sculpture, design, song. Emulating his fellows who had achieved, each individual was led to an effort toward greater achievement, and so we have progress.

In its first analysis this appears an egoistic incentive, but consideration of those individuals responsible for the epoch making attainments of the race reveals unerringly an inner conviction of worth, of something of value to the world, urging to expression, and demanding recognition.

Library publicity, to be effective, must spring from some such deep-seated conviction that here is something of worth, not extended thru any other agency, which the public cannot afford to miss. The librarian is an important element in such publicity, but merely as an agent, not as the creator of that which she advertises. Her publicity must be impersonal, yet must be inspired by a vivid enthusiasm for books and the personalities back of them, else her advertising becomes mechanical and fails in its purpose, which is the development of new and inspirational reading interests in her public.

A library system, large or small, is of necessity highly mechanized. If it is intended for the use of many people it is a predestined failure without an orderly method of arrangement and procedure. There is always danger, however, that the librarian may fall a victim to her mechanical system and sacrifice to it her inspiration. Failure to appreciate the marvelous material passing thru her hands and the influence it may have on the individual using it, and thru him on the life and thought of his time, is tragic. It substitutes a drudge for a pathfinder. On the other hand, enthusiasm for the possibilities of her work will make of the librarian an unconscious publicity agent, missing no opportunity to impress on her public the value of books.

Granting, then, the significance of publicity and the inspiration back of it, we may survey it in some of its practical aspects.

School library publicity falls naturally into two divisions, with distinct purposes and methods to be pursued:

1. Publicity within the school, addressed to teachers and students, designed to acquaint the former with the growing resources of the library, and to interest the latter in the whole field of knowledge.

2. Publicity without the school, designed to explain to the general public the purpose of the work in the school and to secure their interest and co-operation.

Co-operation with the teachers is of fundamental importance. The librarian reaches the individual student, but the teacher impresses the class as a whole with the importance of the book or selection which she considers valuable, and by means of the required assignment or suggested reference induces the student to make an acquaintance with books which he would not voluntarily seek. His interest once aroused, he will continue his reading beyond the assignment, or make a mental note of the book, to be resumed when he has leisure for reading.

A project of unusual interest to the librarian was one in which the teacher of a class in ancient history assigned a special topic to each student at the beginning of the semester, reports to be made as the class studied the period to which they related. Mark Antony, Julius Caesar, and the struggle between Rome and Carthage, were among the subjects assigned. Preliminary to his reading each student made a bibliography of all material in the library on his subject. This involved frequent consultations with the librarian, who watched the progress of the work, and noted that interest was sustained among the students until their reports were made. The teacher found herself unfamiliar with some information thus brought out in class, but careful checking in such cases revealed that students had been accurate in their statements. This work gave to each student a personal interest in the progress of the subject as studied in class; added to the general information of the class; prepared students for research work in college or public libraries; and acquainted the whole class with the entire book collection for ancient history, with the result that they have added to their mental equipment a source knowledge of Herodotus, as well as familiarity with such modern authorities as

Warde Fowler or William Stearns Davis. Without the co-operation of the teacher the librarian could not have brought this material to the attention of so many students in a brief period of time.

New books added to the library should be advertised thruout the school. There is the fascination of the unknown in a new book which is unfailing in its appeal. Bulletins announcing such additions may be sent to all teachers, and at the first opportunity personal mention should be made to those especially interested. New books left in a prominent place for inspection of teachers and students always attract attention. With judicious suggestions from the librarian a new encyclopedia may prove as interesting as the latest volume of popular fiction.

Occasional discussion of library problems in teachers' meetings is valuable, insuring that teachers and librarian are working in harmony.

Reading lists will be prepared from time to time, as special projects are developed by the teachers. Many prefer to do this work themselves, but others leave such compilations to the librarian. All this work is exacting, and, we repeat, of fundamental importance. The average teacher is cautious about adding to her class assignments—justly so—but once convinced of the value of what the librarian has to offer her co-operation is lasting, not to be lightly cast aside for a newer, more absorbing interest, as may happen with the student. No work of serious import may be accomplished thru the school library until teachers and librarian are allied, therefore this phase of publicity is stressed first of all.

Turning to student publicity, we take up the most fascinating aspect of school library work, a phase vital enough to save any normal librarian from falling a victim to the mechanism of her profession, and to persuade her that there is no greater work or privilege than that of bringing youth, eager, impetuous, sensitive to every influence, contemptuous of impossibilities, into contact with the most inspiring minds of the present and the past. It is a chosen company to which the student body is introduced, and there be no fear as to the reaction.

Here the personal element is strong. At the desk in charging, in consultation over book selection, in reference work, there is constant opportunity to learn individual inclinations and abilities, and to bring to the attention of the student those books or periodicals which have most value for him. However, fascinating as this personal element may be, and incalculable in its importance, it will not reach every student. For general knowledge as to the resources of the library we depend upon the teachers. Music, art, technology, literature, history, science, all gain new devotees thru the special assignments which send the students to the shelves.

General reading lists recommended by the English department are unsurpassed as effective student publicity. Such lists should be posted in a conspicuous place, the books on special shelves nearby if that be possible. With an annotated manual within easy reach students will give serious consideration to the book to be read next, choosing from the list an attractive title, then referring to the manual for additional information as to the nature of the book. If the title selected is not available another choice is necessitated, and in this process students become familiar with authors and titles, acquiring a fair knowledge of the general field of literature which will influence their reading later in life.

Book talks in English classes are desirable, supplementing the specific instruction of the teacher. This should be rated as of equal importance with instruction in the use of library tools, yet in the average library the staff is inadequate to pursue such work to the limit of its usefulness.

The school paper is an effective source of publicity, addressed to teachers, students, and general public. If it is a newspaper, informal, gossipy items about the library, reports, lists of new books, and acknowledgements of gifts, may be published from time to time. Vary the method of attack. The newspaper is a product of the commercial world, and you are selling your library to your student public. Don't allow the appeal to become hackneyed or over insistent. Keep the library desirable.

If the school paper is of a literary nature interest in the library may be increased by the publication of student book reviews; a guessing contest involving well-known books; brief descriptions of outstanding new books ordered for the library, to create the demand in advance. A book number now and then helps to enhance the importance of books and libraries in the estimation of the students. If the editorial staff consents to this enterprise it should be made as sparkling and attractive as possible. Books rightly chosen are never dull, and no one should be allowed to gain the impression that books and libraries are not as interesting as any activity in school.

Library programs in student assembly add to the dignity and prestige of the library as an institution, and increase interest along certain lines which may need to be stressed. The history of books and libraries, some literary period, the practical value of books, or favorite characters from books, may be developed in such programs. Presented in dramatic form they assume

the spectacular interest essential in holding a student audience.

Posters must be considered as a form of library publicity. They may have an appropriate decorative value, and attract a certain amount of attention, but their value in comparison with the time spent in preparation is doubtful. An effort to push a book solely by the poster plan rarely is successful. With an impetus in the form of a special assignment, or the quality of personal appeal, the poster may strengthen the impression, but alone its publicity only touches the minority.

In connection with this, the question arises as to whether a book should ever be pushed which in no way appeals to the interests of a young person, however worth while it may be intrinsically. Experience would indicate that such a step is unwise. Unless the reading receives some recognition in the form of class credit such a forced choice only leads to a distaste for books and loss of confidence in the person who made the recommendation. With only a carefully chosen collection available the student should be allowed a certain latitude of choice which permits him to follow his natural inclinations. Influence in his selection should be by suggestion rather than arbitrary direction.

Student publicity comprises the daily routine of the school librarian. It is a constant, many-sided endeavour to present that literature, informational and inspirational, which has been deemed worth while for young people, in such a way that its impression will be lasting and its influence lead to more reading of the best type.

The second division of school library publicity falls outside the school, and is addressed to the general public. Its purpose is to gain the active co-operation of the public in the work of the school library. You may convince people of the need for a specific undertaking, but until you have interested them results will not be apparent.

The newspaper is undoubtedly the most potent agency in this field. It reaches practically every home, and school news is apt to be read by all classes,—by those who have children because of their personal concern, and by others because of their financial concern. Information tendered to the newspaper for publication should have news value, and should be presented in interesting form. Perhaps no part of the librarian's work is more delicate than this, or more fruitful in securing the good will of the public if carefully handled. News of the various departments of the school involving their use of the library serves a double purpose, emphasizing the library as an adjunct of all departments. For many reasons it seems better to present the library as a general laboratory for all subjects rather than as a separate department.

The reading manual or annotated lists of books recommended from all departments for the reading of high school students is a second form of publicity of considerable value with the general public. This will not reach so large a public as the newspaper, even tho the students carry it into the homes, but it reaches a discriminating public in those who take the time to examine it critically, and, if carefully prepared as it should be before ever appearing in print, it should win the confidence of those who may be rather hazy as to just what is being done in the school library. The printed lists should be prepared with this appeal to the adult public equally in mind with the appeal to student interests. This makes the task correspondingly more difficult, but, when once printed the lists stand as the official recommendation of the school, and deserve all the care and study the librarian can give to them. They will suggest books to be purchased for the home library as well as books to be borrowed from the school and public library. Simply compiling from other recommended lists falls short of the best that can be offered, for every community has its own peculiarities of population, its own tendencies and historical background, which make its reading problem an independent one. The alert librarian will select from the whole field of recommendations those books best adapted to her community and to the needs of her school. Naturally, the teachers will be consulted constantly in the matter of selection, and in this way a book collection may be developed which is in truth a "working collection."

At times the librarian is invited to speak before certain organizations interested in the public welfare. How far such publicity should be sought is doubtful, as it reaches limited groups, and may necessitate spending time which should be given to the work in the room. However, if it is practicable, such opportunities may be welcomed by the librarian as evidence that the library is filling a vital place in the community.

Finally, there is co-operation with the public library. If the two organizations are associated this co-operation is automatic. If they are independent of each other it should be cultivated for the interest of both. Special assignments continuing over a considerable period of time should be submitted to the city librarian, and permanent reading lists should be posted or available at the desk of the public library.

Some few methods of publicity have been considered in this survey. We have recognized the importance of teachers, students, and public, in addressing our efforts to them, but we have

not mentioned two individuals—the principal and the superintendent. There is no need to beset them with publicity, for their interests are identical with those of every department of the school. Their support, however, is the foundation of all success in the library, and to them, with the co-operation of teachers, students, and public, the librarian may attribute whatever measure of success she may have in the dissemination of knowledge and the cultivation of a love for reading which will lead her students into paths of aspiration which know no limit.

That is the purpose of all school library publicity.

The Providence Public Library Looks Ahead

IN another year, on the fourth of February, 1928, the Providence Public Library will observe its fiftieth anniversary, and will then be faced with a building problem. The stacks of the main building will be completely filled within the next two years, when there will be nearly 300,000 volumes on the shelves. The quarters of certain departments in the main building, notably the cataloging, industrial and art departments, have been entirely outgrown. Extensive additions to the main building on land which the library already owns will be necessary in the immediate future. None of the library's seven branches is adequately housed, and at least three more branches are needed. Taking into account both additions to the central building and the branches, the library is faced with the necessity of a capital expenditure in the immediate future of well over a million dollars if the work which has developed during the last ten years, and the work which is pressing to be done, is to be placed on a solid foundation and adequately provided for. Provision for these needs may be made either by the library's using its present funds, if it were assured of an increase in the city appropriation of $60,000, making $100,000 from the city in all, to replace the income from investment which would thereby be lost; or else the city might supply the needed buildings with but a slight increase in the present annual appropriation for current expense. This would be a departure from the policy which has hitherto prevailed, for the city of Providence has never contributed to the building expense of the library.

The case of the library is thoroly documented by two pamphlets recently issued with the library's imprint, *The History and Present Needs of the Providence Public Library* and *The Service of the Providence Public Library*, as well as the independently written *Sociological Survey of the Providence Public Library* by Professor May Hall James, noted in our January first issue. The pamphlets were prepared and made available for distribution in connection with an exhibit of the work of the library recently shown in the lobby of the Rhode Island Hospital Trust Company and elsewhere. The exhibit was grouped under the general heading "The Providence Public Library—Education—Information—Recreation." There was also shown the elevation and floor plan of a type of branch building which the library trustees believe to be needed in Providence. Occupying the central position in the exhibit was a model constructed to show the present central library building with the needed extensions, architects' plans for which have been prepared. The exhibit is illustrated on the front cover of this number.

The library first opened its doors in a single room in the Butler Exchange on the fourth of February, 1878. Its tangible assets amounted to less than $100,000, yielding an annual income of less than $5,000, and 10,307 books, of which 6,683 had been donated. Its staff other than the librarian consisted of an assistant and a messenger. During the first year 10,810 persons registered as borrowers of books for home reading and 90,682 volumes were circulated, a remarkable record not materially surpassed for a quarter of a century. In 1880, the library was moved to larger quarters, occupying the whole first floor of the Mowry and Goff School building on Snow Street. In 1889 the city appropriated $3,500, almost immediately increased to an annual appropriation of $7,500, and again increased to $10,000 in 1895. The same year the library acquired under the will of Henry L. Kendall a bequest ultimately amounting to $275,000, but for a time subject to considerable annuities. The total gifts and bequests for the year 1889 to 1897 amounted to nearly $400,000. In 1893 the trustees acquired at a cost of $83,000 five lots of land bounded by Washington, Greene and Fountain streets, and plans were made for a building. The cost of the building in its complete form seemed to be prohibitive, and it was finally decided to proceed with the erection of the stack for housing the books, and to build in front a temporary structure for the accommodation of the public and the administrative work. Escape from this unfortunate compromise came thru the generosity of John Nicholas Brown, who in 1898 offered to meet the expense of erecting the complete building—a contribution which reached $268,000. The equipment of the building cost over $100,000;

the entire investment in land, building, and equipment amounted to $475,000. The trustees, however, had put so much capital into the building that there was left an income less than $14,000 from invested funds and the certainty that the expense of maintaining the new building would far exceed the rent which they had previously paid. The situation was in part relieved when, in 1900, the city increased its appropriation to $20,000. The period 1901-1916 was one of substantial expansion made possible by the gradual increase of the city's appropriation to $33,000 and the receipt of about $450,000 in gifts and bequests. At the end of the period the cost of maintenance of the service of the library and of the four branches that had been established had risen so greatly that the emergency could be met only by the tripling of the city's appropriation. As a matter of fact, the city temporarily diminished its appropriation, and the library was saved by the bequest of Miss Lyra Brown Nickerson, which, originally estimated at $1,500,000, has yielded $2,500,000.

In 1925 the library reached more than twice as many people and circulated more than three times as many books as it did in 1916, (958,033 in all) and, for the first time within its history, it lived within its income. Nevertheless, it is obliged to spend on operation practically its whole income. For further expansion of the branch system, for an addition to the main building, for the establishment of a pension system for those who reach the age of 65 in the library service, it must depend on a larger increase in the city appropriation, now only seventeen cents per capita ($33,000), or on new gifts and bequests.

Boston's New Business Library

BOSTON will be the home of the greatest collection of books on business in all its phases that has ever been assembled or cataloged together, as a result of an agreement entered into January 15 between the Boston Public Library and the Harvard Graduate School of Business Administration. The removal of the School to the new buildings within the city limits of Boston has made it possible to qualify the Business School Library as a branch of the Boston Public Library for the purpose of joint housing, cataloging, and administration of the fragmentary collections that have heretofore existed in the Boston Public Library and the Business School, Harvard College Library, and that more recently acquired by the Business Historical Society. The Public Library collection is particularly rich in nineteenth century material. The Business Historical Society supplements this with earlier records, and the library of the Business School brings the two down to date and adds a great deal of illustrative material in the form of records, reports, and other ephemeral matter not ordinarily collected in libraries.

The entire collection will be available for use by all persons entitled to use the Boston Public Library. Under a liberal inter-library loan system, the burden of cataloging and exploiting this material, as well as the final handling of it, will fall on the staff of the Harvard Business Library.

The releasing of shelf space in the main library building is welcomed by the authorities as the solution of the problem that has been growing more pressing in recent years.

The Boston Public Library is permitted under the agreement to recall from deposit at any time specific material for which need arises. All books transferred will remain the property of the Boston Public Library.

The contract also provides for the eventual creation of another collection on business for use in the Business Men's Branch of the Boston Public Library. This collection will also be under the joint management of the two librarians and will include books belonging to both libraries.

In short, the agreement looks forward to a coöperation in a great public service for Boston business.

Agreement by and between the Trustees of the Boston Public Library and the President and Fellows of Harvrd College (slightly abridged) reads as follows:

. . . 1. The Trustees of the Boston Public Library shall constitute the Harvard Business Library, located in . . . known as Brighton, a depository for books and other material . . . the Harvard Business Library becoming to this extent a branch of the Boston Public Library. The books and other material so deposited shall be combined with similar material of the Harvard Business Library and the two cataloged jointly.

2. The Harvard Business Library shall furnish the physical facilities and equipment as rapidly as possible to take over such books and material as shall be agreed upon. . . .

3. The Harvard Business Library will, as rapidly as its resources permit, prosecute the work of introducing the books and material into its shelves and cataloging them. . . .

4. The Boston Public Library will furnish the Harvard Business Library with a copy of the essential information in its existing catalog relating to the transferred material.

5. The books and other material transferred to the library of the Harvard School of Business Administration by the Boston Public Library, with the other material belonging to the Business Library and any additions however made, shall be available for use

by such persons as would be entitled to use the same if contained in the Central Building of the Boston Public Library, subject to . . . reasonable restrictions . . . It is understood that the Library of the Harvard School of Business Administration will afford reasonable opportunity for such use in its library building. . . . In the discretion of its authorities, however.

6. Both libraries are to co-operate to as full an extent as is practicable in the inter-loan of books. . . .

7. The books and material intended to be covered by this agreement are those pertinent to the work of the Harvard Business Library which are not in the opinion of the Librarian of the Boston Public Library, needed for current use of the Boston Public Library. The Librarian of the Boston Public Library may at any time recall from deposit specific material for which need has arisen.

8. All details as to the transferring of the books and material to the Harvard Business Library shall be under the direction of the Librarians of the two libraries. Books and material so transferred shall remain the property of the Boston Public Library.

9. It is expected that the arrangement for which provision is made in this agreement will be permanent. It is, however, understood that if it appears to either party to be desirable it may be terminated upon conditions to be the subject of consideration at the time. . . .

10. Each party shall bear the risk of loss by fire or other hazard or by theft; it being understood that the Harvard Business Library will give the same degree of care to the books and material of both parties.

11. The two institutions . . . stand ready to co-operate in the establishment, as a branch of the Boston Public Library, of a business reference library in the downtown section of Boston, to be established, operated and maintained by and in connection with the two libraries. The expense of such a reference library would have to be borne presumably by the business community, or at any rate by some person or persons other than the two Libraries.

Ernest De Witt Burton, 1856-1925

DURING a half-century of research, say the publishers of this memorial volume on Ernest De Witt Burton, by Thomas Wakefield Goodspeed,* Dr. Burton achieved an international reputation as a New Testament scholar. In two years of extraordinary activity as president of the University of Chicago he became equally well known as an educational executive. To these characterizations must be added his prominence in the library field, especially his directorship of the University of Chicago Libraries, which he assumed in 1910. He had been connected with library work ever since his student days in Denison University, thirty-five years before, where he had been a library assistant, says Dr. Goodspeed. In the Theological Seminary in Rochester he had also been student assistant in the same work, assuming fuller charge when he became instructor. His growing knowledge of the work gave him supervising charge of the library when he became a professor in Newton, and he quickly came into official relation to the same work in the Divinity School in Chicago. This long experience led him to study library architecture and, under President Harper, he was made chairman of the library commission which worked out the problem of the university library system. As early as 1909 he made an address before the American Library Association at its annual conference, in which he unfolded the university's plans of library construction, distribution, and organization as they are being carried out today. He took a leading part in determining the interior arrangement of the Harper Memorial Library.

When he became director in 1910 there were 70,000 volumes in the General Library and 219,000 in the departmental libraries. In 1925 the General Library had increased to about 500,000 volumes, and the departmental libraries to 500,000. The circulation of books had increased from 20,000 to 414,500 annually. The library staff had grown from twenty-three to more than one hundred, in addition to which about 250 student assistants were being employed. In 1910 the salary budget of the libraries was not quite $22,000, and increased from year to year until, in 1924, it amounted to more than $140,000. In 1910 the expenditure for books was a little over $28,000, and in 1924 this had been increased to $67,470. The number of readers had multiplied many times over, until visits of readers to the libraries averaged about 6,000 a day, or two million for the year.

To Dr. Burton belongs the credit, said a member of the library staff to Dr. Goodspeed, for thinking of the university library as a unit and a laboratory for research, for planning and arranging a library building designed to promote research, for convincing the university faculty of the need of some centralization of departmental libraries, for explaining the need of, and securing the funds to build, a large general catalog of the entire university libraries, for building up one the largest university staffs in the country, and for making the resources of the university libraries so available that the demands upon them doubled every year for the first three or four years of his administration, and have continued to increase almost every year until the facilities outlined in his report of 1902 have been outgrown and he himself was at work upon much larger plans at the time of his death.

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* Goodspeed, Thomas Wakefield. *Ernest De Witt Burton;* a Biographical Sketch. University of Chicago Press. Cloth, 93p., $3.

The Bung and the Spile

Or, What Becomes of the Children's Librarians. *By Louise P. Latimer, Director, Work with Children, Public Library, Washington, D. C.*

MOST librarians are aware of the dearth of trained children's librarians in this country. Some have given thought to the causes of this dearth tho most of us have been impatient when a children's librarian was not forthcoming on demand and have let it go at that. Increased effort is being put on recruiting for library schools specializing in work with children and some studies have been made of the training that should be given in these schools. We should of course keep up our recruiting and we should improve the training but we must not think of recruiting or training as cures for the death of children's librarians. These treatments helps, but it looks as tho a surgical operation were needed to effect a cure.

The main reason the country has so few trained and experienced persons in this work is not because the profession does not entice them to come in but because it does not hold them. I think we have all comforted ourselves in the midst of this condition more than the facts justify. We have kept saying until we have come to believe it that we lose people from children's work thru matrimony and illness and other visitations of Providence over which we have no control. Now if we keep on thinking that these causes, without doubt responsible for the loss of many, are at the bottom of our troubles we are not going to take the responsibility for this serious condition, we are not going to the root and cure it.

No children's librarian can speak on this subject without being open to the suspicion that she is over-emphasizing her own field of endeavor. In order that I may not be discounted unduly I must say that I do not think children's work is any more important than any other part of library work. I should not want to see a children's department for which I was responsible develop faster than the rest of the library. I should feel that if I built up a strong clientèle which did not advance into the adult departments I was pretty nearly a hundred per cent failure. But I do believe that children's work is the foundation of the library and that as this work is strong in quality, the library will be strong.

Believing these things I urge that all librarians with their hearts in the work look to the foundations of their libraries. The cure is not in the hands of those working with children. It is in the hands of chief librarians and committees studying library organization.

What then is the trouble? The trouble, we have suggested, is, not holding people in the work. Where do they go? Into adult work in libraries, into book stores, book departments of stores, into publishing houses. Why do they go? Do they like these occupations better? They go because there is no future in children's work. Many report that they prefer work with children in a library to any other occupation but that there is nothing in it for them. Is this true? I think it is. We are at present, in our practice, practically saying to young people, "Go to a school training in children's work, then come into our library, study and read children's books continuously in your own time, read also good adult books to keep your reviewing sound and when you have been in the work with children for six or seven years we will promote you out of it." So much from the standpoint of the employee.

The library is not realizing on its own investment when it throws away the accumulated knowledge (not a little, of necessity, gained in library time) by putting the experienced children's librarian into a position which some one without her specialization could hold as well.

Why do libraries do this? Chief librarians, fair and appreciative of those children's librarians serving faithfully and deserving financial promotion, have nowhere to promote them except into adult work. In justice they do it. Directors of children's work, proud that members of their departments deserve promotion, aid in this decapitation of children's work. I do not believe this is necessary. I believe the answer is in a reconsideration (of which we already are seeing signs) of organization. That is, that the libraries think in terms of two parallel lines of work, specialization and administration.

In the reclassification of the work of the United States Government, which includes every profession known to man, a study lasting many years was made. They called in all available authorities who could add to the present knowledge of the matter. The outcome of this survey was that specialists were rated as high as administrators. The reasons for this were that much time and energy, expended outside required working hours, are necessary to become a specialist and that to have specialists,

suitable rank and compensation must be given them. Specialization has arrived. The longer the service of the individual in a given field the greater is the asset of accumulated knowledge to the library. Our burning question is to make a future for these specialists equal to the future of administrators.

There are libraries in this country which promote children's librarians after a certain length of service to be senior desk assistants, some promote them to be assistant branch librarians and others to be branch librarians. Truly libraries are having their reward for this policy.

We have certain ideas about children's librarians that are at the bottom of much of our trouble in securing recognition for specialization in children's work. One of these ideas is that a young woman just out of a library school is an adequate children's librarian, fitted to take charge of a children's room, able to give the neighborhood in which she works the idea that the library is an educational institution and that she is an expert in children's literature. What other profession would make such a claim on such a slight basis? She should be a good disciplinarian, have adequate working knowledge of child psychology, of sociology. She should have at her fingers' end the range of children's literature and know the local school curriculum. She must have a pleasing personality. She must have poise. She should speak with authority to adults. And she should be pretty!

I believe it is absolutely true that no one, no matter how good the library school she attends, no matter how able and studious she be, is qualified to meet such demands under six or seven years study and practical work. As we have seen by the time she gets to this point we pass her on to supposed higher fields. If our children's librarians (not the head of a department set off in an office and coming little into contact with the public) stayed long enough to know their books, we would very soon have a different idea in the community of the value of libraries. Right there in the actual work is the best advertisement a library could have and an army of borrowers believing in the library would pass from the children's room to the adult departments.

Another fallacy is that a children's librarian must be young. If she is quite young she cannot be a children's librarian in any real sense, she is someone working in a children's room. Children are not deceived as to the knowledge of the assistant. In one library a young assistant from the charging desk of the circulation department was talking to a visiting librarian. She said, "We take turns going into the children's rooms to run them. Some persons try to make out that children's work is different from any other but it really isn't." This is an extreme illustration of one of two ways of looking at children's work, one that books are mechanically issued to children in children's rooms and that's the end of it. The other is that children's work is educational, aiming to make wise and better children and that the staff knows the collection and interprets it to the public. "I want a book like such a one." The assistant does not know "such a one," how can she give another like it? "My teacher says please send her the best book on the home life of the Ancient Greeks for the fourth grade." Can she send it if she does not know her collection? Reviews and annotations are of little help in children's work. Finding lists answer only obvious questions. Build up a child's taste? How can they if they do not know children from study, if they do not know books relatively? However able the head of a children's department may be, the community bases its opinion of library work with children largely on its contact with the childrens' librarian, the person actually doing the work in a children's room. Young and immature workers mean a weak library.

Let me illustrate my point by an experience. In the library in which I work we have a Parents and Teachers room where a considerable amount of work is done with adults, many of them not parents and teachers. I find practically no time to work in the room but it is necessary for me to pass thru it many times a day. I have been interested in passing to notice the effect which the knowledge of the assistant has on the adult. If a junior assistant is talking her hearer is appreciative and courteous and unimpressed. If an assistant with a sound knowledge of the literature is aiding, the visitor fairly glows. The junior assistant can not, has not training enough, to get the real implication of the question and has an insufficient knowledge of the literature to answer adequately, if she had sensed the question. My point is that if we could gradually build up in this country children's rooms and strong children's departments, our adult community would glow. Once we get it in this state, support is not far off. As one adult expressed it, "What a comfort it is to find someone who knows the insides of books."

Having looked at some of the symptoms of our trouble, let us go back to the cure. Is it not possible, indeed necessary, in library work, as it is in all other professions to recognize specialization? In the Government specialization was dying out until it was recognized. Practically, how can we do it? I think reference librarians and children's librarians and those in charge of specialized subjects in adult work should be graded as high and compensated as well as anyone in the library (under the position of heads of departments to which in their own field they should be eligible). The library then utilizes

knowledge instead of throwing it away by promotion.

Someone says, in horror perhaps, "The logical conclusion of this is that a branch librarian and a children's librarian could be in the same grade." I think they should be, when experience, ability and length of service are equal. A children's librarian could well be in the same grade and with the same compensation as her own branch librarian. She would of necessity and right defer to the branch librarian in all matters relating to the conduct of the building and administration. She should not be required to defer to her in matters relating to her own specialty or the control of her children's room.

Two doctors go to a hospital, one decides on general practice, the other decides to specialize in the care of children. The latter of necessity must add specialized training to the training of the general practitioner. They both begin to practice. After the child specialist becomes reasonably proficient he does not need to go into work with adults in order to receive an increased reward for his work. What would be the result if he did? Our children would always be practiced upon. Well that is what is happening, pretty generally, to our children in libraries.

Two young women go to library school; both study the technique of general library work; one studies, in addition, children's work. The two go out of school into a library. It is safe to say that the average children's librarian reads as much or more. The children's librarian works probably under somewhat greater strain because of the number of children she handles at one time. These two persons, Adult and Juvenile let us call them, work faithfully for ten years, at the end of which time Adult becomes branch librarian, and Juvenile a childrens' librarian in perhaps the same branch, a subordinate to her contemporary with substantially lower compensation and no future.

That, I believe, is the major reason why we have in this country pathetically few children's librarians with over five years' experience plus a library school training. Of course no one would try to hold the occasional person who finds after trying juvenile work that she prefers work with adults.

At present everybody is a children's librarian who works in a children's room, from the youngest up to the person competent to speak authoritatively on children's literature. The young library school graduate is made a children's librarian and if she stays for twenty years in the work will more than likely still be a children's librarian. Some differentiation would be fairer to the person of longer service and it would give the young worker something to look forward to.

Could we not have some sort of grading for those actually working in a children's room? Grade D: Just out of library school. Grade C: Library school plus three years' experience. Grade B: Library school plus six years' experience. Grade A: Library school plus nine years' experience. Grade A to be as high as any other in the library, save heads of departments, and paid as well. Of course I am not suggesting that a person working with children should invariably rise to grade A. Promotions would come of course from ability, faithful work and study.

If we say that this recognition of specialization can never be, I think we might as well say that we will never have experts and educators in our children's departments. Children's work is now a blind alley down which fewer and fewer will be going as they learn to look at that wall at the end. If they do not know enough to look when they enter library school it does not take them long to see the future after they take a position in a library.

We can be sure that the contact with children, the delight of knowing children's books, the wide variety of adults met in the work would give stimulus and interest enough for a life time if other things were equal. Too many have testified to this for us to have any doubt about it.

Is building up children's taste, wisely aiding them educationally a lesser job than any other in a library? Does it not call for as many qualifications, as much information and as great length of service as any other?

In my plea for a place in our organization for the specialist, I have dwelt on the children's librarian because I am trying to show why I believe we have this dearth of children's librarians. I think it important that the whole matter of specialization in libraries, adult as well as juvenile, should have thoughtful consideration.

Is it not time for us all to see the implications of the specialization that our communities are demanding? We may advertise in the best manner that we are experts in these things but if the citizen comes to our library and does not find us living up to our publicity the library's state is worse than it was before. Let's put more thought into being the thing we would like to be and that the community expects us to be. I believe this would save us much advertising.

Why "The Bung and the Spile"? The burden of my thought is that in the language of the proverb we are feeding children's librarians into the spile of the barrel and letting them out at the bung, and that is no more effective in library work than it is in keeping a full barrel.

We might well ponder the fact that the foundation of the library is its children's work. We do not need to be told that a structure is no sounder than its foundation, and that a foundation is not sound if it consists of weak and too few stones. Once we see our children's depart-

ment as the foundations of the library, once we see that to be anything worth while children's work must be a specialization we will logically and almost inevitably think of specialists and administrators as equals and contemporaries. Then we will, in all sympathy, put our heads together and see what we can do to stop this sapping of the foundations of library service.

The County Library to the Fore

A Plan for Co-operation Between Various National State and County Organizations and the A. L. A. in the Establishment of Free County Library Service for the United States and Canada. Outlined by Sabra L. Nason, Kingston, Pa.

FORTY-SEVEN million rural and small town residents of the United States and Canada are without free public library service. This astounding figure—47,054,168—recently reported in the findings of the Library Extension Committee of the A.L.A., should be a call to arms for every individual or organization which can lend any aid toward the establishment of free public library facilities for America's immense rural population. And with forty-seven per cent of the children of the nation enrolled in the rural and small village schools, which almost universally lack library advantages, there is much to be done.

Attractive county library exhibits prepared by the New Jersey Public Library Commission have been recently shown before the national meetings of the Congress of Parents and Teachers, the General Federation of Women's Clubs and the National Grange, at the request of these organizations. Other such requests have been made which would indicate that this form of library publicity before non-library organizations is especially needed and welcomed. At the library exhibit of the A.L.A. in Philadelphia, the eager questions asked and the special interest shown in the county library movement prove that it is one of the most popular phases of library work. The practical make-up of this exhibit at the Sesquicentennial Exposition was purposely planned by the Fiftieth Anniversary Exhibit Committee so that the mats and screens of unit sizes could be later shipped and used in smaller groups according to the library subject to be emphasized at different conventions.

Further, the A. L. A. Council at the Fiftieth Anniversary Conference in October accepted the recommendations of the Committee on Library Extension for active national extension thru field agents, publicity and co-operation with national educational and social agencies, with emphasis on the county unit. These and other policies are to be carried out as rapidly as funds permit. With the increasing interest shown by citizens at large in the results of county library service now in operation, and with Miss Merrill's book *Library Extension* showing that thirty-eight of our states still have great county spaces entirely without public libraries, the field is ready for a wide planting of tested methods and a harvest of free county library stations within easy reach of this large rural population.

As the women's clubs of the country, either locally or in federated groups, have so often taken the initiative in starting public libraries, we base the proposed co-operative plan on their organization. However, it should work equally well if sponsored by one or more of such organizations as the Parent-Teacher Association and the Grange, or the Rotary, Exchange, Kiwanis or Lion's Clubs among the men. These last four clubs have mottoes whose spirit would well fit into the building of the best possible county unit library service: "He profits most who serves best," "Unity for service," "We build" and "Liberty, intelligence, our Nation's safety." A start has already been made. A Lion's Club in one state has offered a sum of money to help start rural library service in their county. A Kiwanis Club in another state has purchased a book automobile for the library to use in its county distribution of books. The General Federation of Women's Clubs has adopted the slogan "A county library in every county in every state." The National Grange has passed a resolution favoring the county library plan.

Good resolutions and general approval, however, will go but a short way unless real study, money, and work accompany united effort. Too often a club's energies are scattered over so great a variety of good projects that little of real worth is accomplished. Decision to work for a county library as a major project of a club year should put it across within a reasonable time. The co-operative backing of both men's clubs and women's clubs could move mountains. A plan of action is here presented, for what it may be worth, for the consideration of any who wish to aid in establishing first class county library service thruout the country.

Suggested Plan for Co-operation

The American Library Association would contribute:

1. County library office headquarters.
2. One or more county library survey specialists properly qualified, who can go to any

part of the country as needed to supply the demand for county library surveys.

3. Traveling expenses of above to and from the state in which surveys are to be made.

4. Studies to be made at headquarters office and materials collected on latest and best methods of county extension, bulletins printed and graphs and charts made.

5. Further exhibit material to be collected and arranged or especially made for use at national, state or district meetings of any organizations wishing to promote county library extension.

The State Federation of Women's Clubs (or other state organization):

1. To advertise the county library idea thruout the state by means of club bulletins, exhibits or other publicity.

2. To furnish use of automobile while A. L. A. specialist is working in the state. (Probably certain cars should be designated such as Dodge or Chevrolet, late models, which the library surveyor must be able to drive, otherwise time would be wasted in becoming acquainted with different makes of cars.)

3. A state should have at least three counties ready to be surveyed in succession when asking for this service to save traveling expense.

4. Or if less, then state or county should pay traveling expenses from A. L. A. headquarters.

The County Federation of Women's Clubs (or any other county group):

1. To pay $100 to the state federation to cover local expenses—supplies, stationery, telephone, car upkeep while in county use, etc.

2. Each county federation asking for a library survey to have a county library committee of three or five to help the surveyor as needed.

Advantages of the Plan

The A.L.A. would have the backing of an organization of three million women in furthering the county library movement. The help of these women with their local connection, influence and enthusiasm will be of the greatest value.

State and county federations of clubs would be furnished with trained library organizers whose analysis and recommendations for each county surveyed will be based on the latest and best developments of the entire country as reported and gathered at the county library headquarters office.

State library commissions. It would be understood that this plan would be carried out in co-operation with the state library commission or other state library agencies in charge of public library extension and would supplement their work in cases where the state had no special county organizer. This suggested plan does not minimize in any way the good work being done by state library commissions and other agencies, but there is not one such agency that is not now handicapped for lack of proper financial support. It is generally conceded that more field work is needed in every state, certainly in county library development. This would later lessen the need of the present more ineffectual work of bolstering up the very small libraries which are often unable to continue alone the standards that have been set for them. Efforts initiated in non-library organizations toward better local library conditions would doubtless develop into more interest in and better appropriations for state library commissions until each state might be able to employ its own experienced county library organizer.

Another advantage is that the cost of surveys and field work, which seems to be the main stumbling block at the present moment, would be divided among three or more working groups and so should increase the possibilities of getting the county library movement more quickly under way.

With these three or more groups working out plans together, we should see the beginning of still greater activity in providing public library advantages for the forty-seven million American minds still without these resources.

Recently, one of the smallest of the groups here mentioned—a county federation of clubs—thru the generosity of three members bore the entire expense of a library survey of a large eastern county, which under the above plan would be carried by the three organizations. If only three more women of equal generosity and keen library interest could be found in an entire state, they could finance the state's share as here outlined for a year, which would provide from seven to ten more counties with surveys and with interest aroused to the needs of a larger library service.

The slight amount of one hundred dollars as a county's share under this plan could surely be raised in any county, and the financing of the A.L.A. part of it we leave that to better heads than ours, feeling that if this co-operative plan is worth while trying, we can trust the financial solution to others.

A County Survey With a Definite Program

The time should now be past for county libraries to be established by guesswork in respect to the necessary annual appropriation. Enough pioneering has now been done to indicate at least in a general way the amount that should be provided when taking into consideration the population to be served and its distribution, area and its topography, means of transportation, industries, and other local conditions.

A danger already apparent in some places

where county systems have been attempted, is in the effort to start a so called "county library" on almost nothing, with the vain hope that it will grow when its usefulness is proved. How can usefulness be proved with the munificent sum of $150 which was granted by the county commissioners of one county for library services to 28,207 people? This allows reading matter equivalent to the cost of half a chew of gum per capita for a year. Another board of county commissioners has doled out $100 for a population of 29,291, or less than a third of a cent per capita. Twelve counties in eight different states are experimenting in county libraries at the annual amount per capita of the cost of a cigarette.

On the other hand, it is very encouraging to find that thirty-four counties in six different states have passed the one dollar per capita standard advocated by the A.L.A. The rest of the 225 county libraries in the United States are financed at points between these two extremes. There are still 2,840 counties in which county systems have not yet been started. No time should be lost in preparing the way so that the largest possible number of these counties may establish their libraries with proper standards of finance, qualifications of staff and organization.

A county library is a big business if properly administered. Big business in the business world is never undertaken without careful analysis of conditions to be met with, personnel of staff, initial equipment required, budget in detail as far as can be known, with probable growth and how to meet it.

In planning a campaign for a new county library, the usual method seems to have been to ask the governing powers for a very moderate amount to start with and if it is granted, then to find a county librarian and expect her to make the analysis and try to fit the funds provided to the book needs of the people. And the zeal and ingenuity of the librarian often accomplish wonders. However, with a pitifully small budget, the librarian is unable to employ a trained staff and spends her own time on many tasks better left to an assistant. This forced mal-administration and lessening of the possible output might have been prevented by study of these possibilities before the initial presentation of the project to the county authorities.

A thoro study of the situation should be made before any campaign, and a concise, straightforward business statement made to the county commissioners, showing the actual needs in population analysis and the corresponding costs in a detailed budget. The total amount is likely to be larger than an indefinite guess would have called for, but it will make a better appeal to the holders of important county positions, accustomed to dealing in large figures. After the first shock, the real importance of a country-wide library system if more forcibly impressed upon them, and the really small rate per capita contrasts very favorably with the service rendered. Even if flood, fire, labor strike, or other untoward circumstance should temporarily delay the actual accomplishment of the plan, the ground work would be laid, and all would be ready to carry on when normal conditions are restored.

A few county library systems started basically right in the states which now have no complete county systems might break the ice for many others so that the long tedious struggle of underpaid and undermanned staff and insufficient book supply could be avoided. The county library system affords so good an opportunity to further the best form of all-round American education in furnishing material for a reading, thinking citizenship, that no stone should be left unturned in establishing such libraries on the best possible foundations.

County commissioners who might otherwise listen to appeals for county library service with indifference, or respond with such insignificant appropriations as to make it hardly worth while attempting to demonstrate the work, might be actively interested if the complete proposition were put before them on a budget plan and backed by organizations that had studied present and future needs.

Important American Books of 1925

Selected by the A. L. A. for the Committee on International Intellectual Co-operation of the League of Nations

FOR the second world list of 600 titles to be published under the auspices of the International Institute on Intellectual Co-operation, the A. L. A. has selected thirty-seven titles.

Countries publishing 10,000 books annually are entitled to forty books in this list but the Association preferred an incomplete list in which every title had an undisputed place to a fuller one which could be questioned. The divisions of the list have been fixed by the Institute, and do not include fiction or children's books.

HISTORY

C. G. Bowers. *Jefferson and Hamilton.* Houghton.
Edward Channing. *History of the United States.* Vol. VI. *The War for Southern Independence.* Macmillan.

SOCIAL SCIENCE

Samuel Gompers. *Seventy Years of Life and Labor.* Dutton.
Hughes Mearns. *Creative Youth.* Doubleday.
Charles Warren. *Congress, the Constitution and the Supreme Court.* Little.

RELIGION

Lewis Browne. *Stranger Than Fiction.* Macmillan.

Kirsopp Lake. *Religion of Yesterday and Tomorrow.* Houghton.
Ludwig Lewisohn. *Israel.* Boni and Liveright.

PHILOSOPHY

John Dewey. *Experience and Nature.* Open Court.
A. L. Gesell. *The Mental Growth of the Pre-School Child.* Macmillan.
George Santayana. *Dialogues in Limbo.* Scribner.

BELLES LETTRES AND ART

John A. Brashear. *Autobiography of a Man Who Loved the Stars.* Houghton.
Harvey W. Cushing. *The Life of Sir William Osler.* 2 v. Oxford.
Robinson Jeffers. *Roan Stallion, Tamar and Other Poems.* Boni & Liveright.
James W. Johnson, ed. *Book of American Negro Spirituals.* Viking.
Wm. E. Leonard. *Two Lives.* Viking.
Amy Lowell. *John Keats.* 2 v. Houghton.
Joseph Pennell. *The Adventures of an Illustrator.* Little.
Herbert Quick. *One Man's Life.* Bobbs.
E. A. Robinson. *Dionysus in Doubt.* Macmillan.

GEOGRAPHY AND TRAVEL

William Beebe. *Jungle Days.* Putnam.
Joseph R. Smith. *North America.* Harcourt.

PHILOLOGY AND LITERARY HISTORY

G. P. Krapp. *The English Language in America.* 2 v. Century.
R. L. Rusk. *Literature of the Middle-Western Frontier.* 2 v. Columbia.

NATURAL SCIENCE

G. A. Bliss. *Calculus of Variations.* Open Court.
C. A. Dorsey. *Why We Behave Like Human Beings.* Harper.
Carleton Ellis and A. A. Wells. *Chemical Action of Ultra-violet Ray.* Chemical Catalog.
D. W. Johnson. *New England-Acadian Shore Line.* Wiley.
A. J. Lotka. *Elements of Physical Biology.* Williams & Wilkins.
C. P. Olivier. *Meteors.* Williams & Wilkins.
C. B. Payne. *Stellar Atmospheres.* Harvard.
M. V. Walcott. *North American Wild Flowers.* Vol. I. Smithsonian.
A. N. Whitehead. *Science and the Modern World.* Macmillan.
S. W. Williston. *Osteology of the Reptiles.* Harvard.

APPLIED SCIENCE

T. F. Carter. *The Invention of Printing in China.* Columbia.
Alice Hamilton. *Industrial Poisons in the United States.* Macmillan.
Raymond Pearl. *The Biology of Population Growth.* Knopf.

A New Era for the Library of Congress

A NEW era of expansion for the Library of Congress opens with the creation last year by Congress of a board (the Library of Congress Trust Fund Board) competent in general to take and administer endowments for the benefit of the library, its collections, and its service. A member of the board, Mr. James B. Wilbur, immediately gave $100,000 in securities to constitute one such endowment, and this was followed by a second endowment of $10,000 from Mr. R. R. Bowker, editor of the LIBRARY JOURNAL. The Library of Congress now feels justified in frankly announcing its needs not only so far as the endowment for "chairs" for the employment of specialists to interpret the collections is concerned, but also as regards material in special fields of learning and culture or bibliographical rarities which its own limited resources will not permit it to acquire. A "Chair of the Fine Arts" to conduct the division recently notably enriched by the will of the late Joseph Pennell, and an endowment for the department of Semitic literature are outstanding needs. A list of book desiderata was prepared under direction of the Librarian and published.

The appointment of a foreign representative with the rank and salary of a chief of division has already proved of great benefit to the library in the larger sphere of activity and influence which it is about to enter, says Dr. Putnam. Dr. W. Dawson Johnston, stationed in Paris at 12 rue des Beaux Arts, has been charged since last January with the task of reporting opportunities for acquisition, negotiating purchases, aiding in the selection of material for reproduction, and in general promoting a knowledge of the character and aims of the library.

The new bookstack, a long desired measure of physical relief, will be ready in March. In type the shelving is identical with that already installed in the building by the Snead Company. Variations in plan occur on the top level, which will be devoted to an enclosure for rarities (the "office collection"), and, around its periphery, with free natural light and ventilation, a series of small rooms for special investigators.

At the end of June, the contents of the library included 3,420,345 books, a gain of 134,580; 985,390 maps and views, a gain of 45,398 (special emphasis was placed this year on the acquisition of Vermont maps); 1,007,007 volumes and pieces of music—the first time that the total has gone into seven figures; and 458,132 prints (pieces), a gain of 8,714. The gain over last year in the Music Division was 14,650. Its most prized acquisition was the holograph manuscript of Debussy's "Nocturnes." Twenty-one concerts were held in the auditorium given to the library by Mrs. Elizabeth S. Coolidge. The law library has collections totaling 214,701, exclusive of law material classified in the general library.

With the addition of twenty items the collection of early English yearbooks is now probably the second in size and importance in this country. Fifty-one additions were made to the collection of the "Dissertations" of Linnaeus, already the largest in the United States. The preparation of a series of lives of the Secretaries of State brought to the library a number of scholars for extended work. With the co-operation of the Roosevelt Memorial Association great progress was made on the work of calendaring the 100,000 pieces of the Roosevelt papers.

American Fiction for Public Library Use

A Study of the Fiction Selected for the A. L. A. Catalog 1926. By William H. Powers, Librarian of the South Dakota College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts, Brookings, N. D.

IN college use there is decided objection to the merging of all fiction in English in one classification. Doubtless even to those who prefer this combination a study of the new *A.L.A. Catalog* with reference to its selection of fiction by American authors will be of interest.

A hasty counting of titles shows 438 by American authors and 469 by English writers. There would then be 222 titles of fiction in translation out of the total of 1129 titles of fiction. To the total and to the divisions probably no strong objection would be made. It is certain, however, that the 1926 list will not match the complexion of any present day collection even in the smallest library. The limitation in number of titles has been secured largely by exclusion of books of passing interest. Of the fifty-six titles recommended in the New York *Best Books* list for 1920 only nine are found in the A.L.A. list, fourteen of the starred titles, even, being omitted. Of the fifty-two titles in the 1924 New York list, however, twenty appear, only two of these twenty being from the group called "Popular Stories." Do we have here a correct measure of fame: out of fifty-two titles thirty-two dead in two years, and only eight left alive in six years? If so, the A. L. A. list will be all the more valuable as a conservative buying list. The meaning of this restriction is even greater than appears from the foregoing figures; for even the New York lists contained no titles by Temple Bailey, B. M. Bower, Zane Grey, or those other best-sellers whose books help to make the bulk of circulation. In general, then, the 1926 list of fiction is made up of titles thought to have more than ephemeral interest.

How has time dealt with the 1904 selection? Fifty-five authors have dropped out entirely with a loss of eighty-two titles. Titles to the number of 101 have been dropped from authors whose names have been retained, and in addition probably a dozen new titles have replaced others that have been dropped. Altogether about 195 titles in the 1904 list have gone, more than half of the total of 375, so great is the turnover in American fiction in a score of years. Yet there will be general acquiescence in this loss, on the part of critics, because most of these dropped books had no real value, on the part of librarians because there is no demand for these titles. And yet an occasional objection will be heard. Middle-aged readers who still call for books they read forty years ago may perhaps be dismissed as sentimentalists. But there is more to be said. Anna Katherine Green is finding it worth while to see thru the press some of her early stories. There are other examples of pastime fiction as undated as detective stories. Still others, because they *are* dated, continue valuable. Surely space should have been found for *The Story of Sevenoaks* and *The Story of Kennett*, each to throw light on a once great fame. And Charles Waddell Chesnutt, Mary Hallock Foote, Malcolm Johnston, and Albion Tourgée cannot be dismissed until we have lost interest in the causes or the regions to which they introduced us. Rose Terry Cooke not only has a permanent place in the history of the short story, but her stories themselves have an appeal not limited locally. How are the major reputations affected? But to answer this question regard must also be had for the additions, new names and new titles, which appear in 1926.

Eighty-eight writers appear for the first time each with a single title, thirty-four others with a total of 116 titles, or a total of new titles by new writers of 204, almost half the grand total. Add about fifty titles which have been added to names already in the 1904 list and it appears that much more than half the fiction now recommended in this year 1926 is the product of the last score of years measured against the more than a century since Cooper brought out *The Spy*. Shall we find fault? Better not with the general result; better err by too great a generosity to the new than by excluding any deserving old friend.

The present writer should admit that tho he regards himself as fairly catholic and liberal in his reading many of these eighty-eight lone stars are unknown to him except in name. Upon them he will not venture to pass.

The new century has been kind to us. We are proud to name Willa Cather, Joseph Hergesheimer, Robert Herrick, Christopher Morley and Anne Douglas Sedgwick, tho to omit others is invidious. Proud too may we be that our twentieth century has rescued Herman Melville, who was entirely forgotten in 1904, as well as Henry Adams' *Democracy*. But our pride may be kept from becoming inordinate by noting that our *A.L.A. Catalog* still omits Charles Brockden

Brown, our forerunner in fiction, and *The Gilded Age*, joint product of Clemens and Warner, certainly containing one of the finest and most lovable characters in our fiction in the person of Colonel Mulberry Sellers.

It might be mentioned that some whom we are inclined to call lesser writers have a secure place. For example, Helen Hunt Jackson and Maurice Thompson each had one title in 1904: each has the same title now. But what conclusion can be drawn from the retention of three titles by Lew Wallace? Has any one under fifty voluntarily read *The Fair God* or *The Prince of India?* Did the military fame of the author weigh so heavily with the editor?

Naturally most of the titles added to names already present in the 1904 list have been published since that date. The showing for a number of authors has thus been improved either by additions or substitutions. This is true, for example, of Winston Churchill, Margaret Deland, John Fox, Weir Mitchell, Hopkinson Smith, Booth Tarkington, and Stewart Edward White. On the other hand further additions or recoveries of title might be asked for in the cases of Alice Brown, Fenimore Cooper, Marion Crawford, Margaret Deland, John Fox, Hamlin Garland, William Dean Howells, and Sara Orne Jewett.

What has been the fate of our greater writers? The following had ten or more titles in 1904: Cooper, thirteen; Crawford, fifteen; Howells, twelve; Stockton, ten. The following had from five to ten: Aldrich, seven; Allen, Austin, Barr, each five; Bunner, six; Burnett, five; Cable, Clemens, Harland, Harris, Harte, each five; Hawthorne, eight; James, seven; Jewett and Murfree, each five; Parker, eight; Wilkins, five. Most of these have lost and the result is a fairer proportion. Only two writers in 1926 are allowed ten titles, Mrs. Wharton rising from three to twelve, James from seven to fourteen. The following have five or more: Byrne, five; Cather, six; Cooper, seven; Crawford, five; Clemens, six; Hawthorne, six; Hergesheimer, seven; Howells, eight; Lincoln, six; London, six; Parker, seven; Smith, seven; Stockton, five; Tarkington, seven; S. E. White, seven. Surely this proportion does not indicate the final verdict.

There seems now to be no question about the place of Cooper and Hawthorne. Disregarding the newcomers, one sees that by the suffrage of the *A.L.A. Catalog* our present major writers are Clemens, Howells, James, and Wharton. The position of Edith Wharton is largely due to her activity since 1904. Judgment concerning Clemens seems not to have undergone any considerable change since 1904, except for the addition of *A Connecticut Yankee* just published in 1904, and we may all interline *The Gilded Age*. Howells and James have met with a curiously different treatment: James has doubled, Howells has lost one-third. This doubtless reflects the real change in opinion. But granting this, may not the selection of titles be open to rather serious criticism? Who that really cares for Howells would be willing to substitute *The Leatherwood God* for *A Foregone Conclusion* or *Letters Home?* It is surely a mutilated Howells that lacks the most entertaining of his slighter stories, his cleverest in developing character in dialog—*The Lady of the Aroostook*.

Naturally, as James became less of a story-teller and more incomprehensible, he became dearer to the critics; hence his doubled fame. Seriously speaking, every library might well have a much fuller collection of James. But where completeness is not aimed at, where samples only of his differing manners can be presented, why both *Daisy Miller* and *An International Episode?* Why recover from the earlier James *Washington Square* rather than some other equally good and more different type of James? It is worthy of remark that more than half the new titles are recoveries. *The Golden Bowl*, *The Ivory Tower*, and *What Maisie Knew* date after 1904. From an earlier date come *The Ambassadors*, *The Awkward Age*, *Washington Square*, and *The Wings of The Dove*.

Occasionally whim seems to have determined a choice. Where mere pastime is sought why add four to the two titles of the English W. W. Jacobs and reduce Frank Stockton from ten to five? Or was some sea-coast critic caught by the salt tang of Jacobs?

Marion Crawford affords a most instructive example of fashion in fiction, heading the list in 1904 with fifteen titles. He is now cut to five, and those five are probably not much in demand in the average library. Yet Crawford was an excellent craftsman, substantial too in material, and as a story-teller still excelling most of those who have been preferred to him.

On the whole the 1926 volume is a worthy guide to the librarian and to the reader of fiction. If it becomes, like its predecessor a scripture worn to the rebinding stage, its omissions—omissions are serious things—will sometimes work harm; even its inclusions may not always be blessed. It is surely a mistake in proportion to select five titles by Donn Byrne, only one by Sydnor Harrison and two by Robert Herrick. It is a grievous loss to omit Alice Brown's *Meadow Grass* and *Tiverton Tales*, as fresh and lovely as when they were first printed. Her lovers should secure an Addenda sheet. It is a still greater loss to leave out Sara Orne Jewett's *Native of Winby* and many another tale, in which every page still retains its charm.

St. Louis Reading Courses of 1885

By CHARLES H. COMPTON
Assistant Librarian of the St. Louis Public Library

AN early attempt—perhaps the earliest—by a public library to have reading courses prepared by specialists, has recently been brought to light. In 1885 Frederick M. Crunden, librarian of the St. Louis Public Library, initiated a series of reading courses which, with the idea he had in mind for them, seem to resemble strikingly the A. L. A. "Reading With a Purpose" courses. A letter written to Dr. H. S. Pritchett in 1885, requesting him to prepare a reading course on astronomy, indicates clearly what Mr. Crunden was proposing:

Prof. H. S. Pritchett
Dear Sir:

It is the intention of the management to publish a series of "hand lists"; i. e., lists of the best books on various topics prefaced in each case by brief directions as to the best methods of study. Each subject will be entrusted to one who has made it a specialty and whose name will be a guaranty of the value of the prefatory essay and the accompanying bibliography.

Will you be kind enough to aid in this work by thus treating at your earliest convenience the subject of "Astronomy," the introduction and bibliography together to fill about one column of a daily paper,—about ten pages of foolscap.

An early reply will oblige

Yours respectfully,
FRED'K M. CRUNDEN, *Librarian.*

That Mr. Crunden realized the importance of securing men of undoubted authority to prepare the reading courses is shown in his letter, but better still by the names of those who prepared the reading courses which were subsequently published. Dr. Pritchett, later to become president of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and president of the Carnegie Corporation of New York, was at that time Professor of Astronomy in Washington University.

The reading course on *The History of France* was prepared by Professor Marshall S. Snow, who was Professor of History in Washington University and for many years Dean of the College of Liberal Arts.

William M. Bryant, teacher under William T. Harris, prepared the list on *Buddhism*. He was best known by his association with Harris and Thomas T. Davidson in the early St. Louis movement in philosophy recognized for its value thruout the country. Bryant was known, both as a teacher in the schools and later in university extension work, as a man who was successful in humanizing the study of philosophy and kindred subjects.

A reading course on *Music* was prepared by Professor Joseph Otten, for many years musical director of the St. Louis Choral Society. The other courses published by the Library in 1885-86 were *The Renaissance*, by Miss Fannie Waters, a high school teacher; *Books of Travel*, by Miss H. C. Clements; *Children: Their Faculties and Management*, by Mrs. J. C. Learned, the wife of the President of the Library Board, a well-known Unitarian minister of St. Louis.

A perusal of the courses themselves I found interesting. Introductory statements vary in length; none of them is long and all are popular in character, altho some of the books suggested for reading would hardly be considered simple. A quotation from Dr. Pritchett's course on *Astronomy* will illustrate the popular nature of the courses as a whole:

In approaching the theory of this most ancient of the physical sciences, it is especially important that the student should become penetrated with the spirit of the science. Above all, the study of astronomy should lead him attentively to regard the phenomena daily and hourly presented to him by the heavens.

The most common of these phenomena remain forever mysteries to many persons of education and intelligence.

Does the sun set daily in the same point of the horizon? At what time does the full moon rise? Which way do the horns of the young moon point? What is the harvest moon? These and a thousand similar inquiries naturally occur to any man who allows himself to observe in the most casual manner the universe about him. If the student will extend his powers of observation by the purchase of a small telescope, such as can be bought at a moderate cost, he has within his own hands one of the most interesting means of self-culture, and a source of unending enjoyment to himself and his friends.

No question is more frequently addressed to astronomers than the following: "What is a good book on astronomy? I want to read up." This is a hard question to answer unless one knows something as to the extent and purpose of the proposed "reading up."

If one desires only a popular account of descriptive astronomy, and expects to read but a single book, perhaps *Newcomb's Popular Astronomy* will answer that purpose better than any other single book.

The books included in the list number 28 and are arranged under 13 sub-headings, including History of Astronomy, Planets, Popular Astronomy, Comets, Sun, and Spectrum Analysis. Several books in German and French are included. The list also gives the names of a number of telescope makers.

In the course on *Buddhism*, by Professor Bryant, the suggestions of books for reading are in the text and no list is given at the end. The first two paragraphs in this course are suggestive of the way the author has approached the subject:

Goethe said that "he who knows but one language knows none." Max Mueller has paraphrased this so as to say: "He who knows but one religion knows none." And in either case there is but the statement, in a special application, of the general truth that no single fact can really be known apart from its relations. This truth has penetrated so deeply into the modern consciousness as to give character to the whole of modern investigation. It is the soul of "historical method." It demands that everything shall be viewed as a phase of an all-inclusive process of evolution.

Buddhism in Relation to Other Early Faiths.

To study Buddhism successfully, then, one must study it in connection with other phases of religious development. For this special purpose a number of specially excellent works are now available.

Professor Bryant prepared a number of other booklets which he called "Syllabi," which are about the same size and of much the same character as our present day reading courses, giving a concise statement of the subject as a whole and listing a brief number of books at the end. He has one on psychology, another on ethics, and one on philosophy, which appeared in February 1898 in the *Public Library Magazine*, published by the St. Louis Public Library. This is not unlike in scope the reading course prepared by Dr. Meiklejohn for the A.L.A. The following is a brief quotation with which Professor Bryant begins his statement:

Socrates refused to count himself as a sophos or man-already-wise; but claimed to be only a philosophos or one who above everything else desires to become wise. In this respect his attitude was one with that of Paul: "Not as if I had already attained."

"Knowledge comes, but wisdom lingers," sings the modern sophisticated poet. From its first breath onward the child gets knowledge. Happy will he be if, arrived at manhood, he may be counted wise.

Another quotation is significant in indicating the co-operation with the Public Library in the preparation of the course:

The following course of reading in philosophy is prepared at the suggestion of Mr. F. M. Crunden of the St. Louis Public Library. I have also attempted to comply with his proposal, made from the librarian's point of view, that the course be constructed with reference to those who have neither knowledge of the subject, nor immediate guide, nor stated hours in its pursuit.

The books that are listed are under a number of subjects, only three books being given under each. These subjects include Outlines of Philosophy, History of Philosophy, Ethics, Aesthetics, and Philosophy of Religion.

One of the most interesting lists is that on *Children: Their Faculties and Management*, prepared by Mrs. Learned, altho one must confess that, if any parent read the many books listed, he would certainly have a thoro grounding in child psychology as well as in all the widely varying principles of education, including the mental, moral and physical up-bringing of the child.

A quotation from Professor Otten's course on *Music* suggests the enthusiasm with which he prepared the course:

If you have absolutely no talent for music, do not attempt the study of it; but if, on the contrary, you are endowed, to a certain degree even, it is good for you to cultivate that gift; for it will enable you to enjoy more the performance of others as it will refine your taste.

Hear as much good music as possible; join some chorus, even if your voice is not very strong. Read musical history (especially Ambros', Brendel's and Grove's works), and the biography of the masters. Otto Jahn's biography of Mozart is an inexhaustible source of information, not only about his external life, but about his psychical development and analysis of his individuality. It gives a succinct history of the various forms of musical composition; how Mozart found, developed, and left them to be carried further by Beethoven.

I have been unable to find out how popular these reading courses proved. There evidently was no newspaper publicity regarding them. However Miss Sula Wagner reports that they were still being used to advantage after she came on to the staff in 1890. In the report of the Library for the year 1885-86 Mr. Crunden says:

Reference Lists.—The only bibliographical work of the year has been the publication of reference lists giving brief directions as to methods of study and lists of the best books on the following subjects: Astronomy; Buddhism; Children: their faculties and management; French history; Music; The Renaissance; Travel.

It is to be regretted that we have not sufficient money to do more of this kind of work. In future, however, our membership in the publishing section of the American Library Association will to a great extent obviate the necessity for expenditure in this way. This organization formed at the Milwaukee convention, July, 1886, has for its object co-operation among libraries in the preparation and publication of indexes to general literature and other aids to readers and students. By thus combining, libraries can offer to their members much valuable information and effective help with comparatively little expense. There will, however, always be something in this line for each library to do individually.

That Mr. Crunden did not give up this idea of reading courses is indicated by the reference already made to the reading course on Philosophy, published in 1898 in the *Public Library Magazine*. It includes also a revision in a more popular form of Professor Snow's reading course on *French History*.

A perusal of these early reading courses induces one again to observe that there is nothing new under the sun not even the "Reading With a Purpose" courses of the A. L. A.

The Library of Congress card numbers are now announced in the *United States Daily* which includes in each issue a list of current accessions to the Library of Congress. This daily list is confined to "serious publications," and it excludes fiction and juveniles. The card number is affixed to each entry.

THE LIBRARY JOURNAL

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THE important committee on foreign government documents, which held a consultation at the Library of Congress last month, has before it one of the most useful yet most difficult of tasks, in a little worked field. This was emphasized in advance by the brief review on the status of "pub. docs." in other countries included in Mr. James B. Childs' Atlantic City paper before the Bibliographical Society. The United States is happily in the lead in its governmental bibliography, England and, curiously enough, India coming second, while Italy since 1923 has been engaged in a promising endeavor to round up lists of its official publications. France in recent years has made an endeavor in this direction, but has apparently given up the job, and Germany, despite its bibliographical reputation, has made little advance in this direction. Some present-day information in this field has been brought together in Paris, partly by the international service in affiliation with the American Library in Paris and partly thru the League committee. But the A. L. A. committee has almost a virgin field and a difficult one will it be to cultivate. To make selective lists of the important official publications of the several European governments since the post-Napoleonic reorganization of 1815 is indeed a task worthy of the mettle of such bibliographers as Gerould, Lydenberg, and Meyer who constitute the committee.

THE Laura Spelman Rockefeller Memorial has come usefully to the front in the foreign library field not only by its grant of $25,000 for the work of the A. L. A. committee on foreign government documents, but also in a conditional increase of its previous assurance of $4,000 a year to a grant of $10,000 for 1927. The condition was similar to those in other Rockefeller gifts—in this particular case that the income of the American Library in Paris should be as much as $36,000 in 1926. There was danger that the promised grant would be forfeited, but a strong drive in the last fortnight of the year brought subscriptions from Paris residents, chiefly of the American colony, of nearly $10,000, raising the income for 1926 to $37,814. This triumph was of especial significance in showing that the American Library in Paris had earned local support, and has heartened the trustees in looking forward to a library building on the American model, which will make possible the wider usefulness of the library and a permanent endowment for the like purpose. One proposed feature is the establishment of a law division which will put at the service of American and French lawyers and students in the French capital the best and latest books on American law, with a union catalog showing what other resources in this field are to be found in Paris. This library of thirty-five thousand volumes has a present circulation of about 150,000 volumes a year, or three a volume, certainly an creditable record, and last year it issued reading cards to more than a thousand students. Its function in Paris is not only to be an exemplar of American library methods, but to act as an interpreter of America for France and other continental countries and prove that our country is not the Shylock which some would count it, but a country where spirituality and culture mean more than the dollar. A similar work is carried on to a more limited extent by the American Library in Rome which Mr. Gay is developing with devotion and enterprise.

IT is pleasant to note that the chief guest at the annual luncheon of the National Association of Book Publishers in New York last month was the President of the American Library Association. Dr. George H. Locke has also been President of the Publishers Association of Canada and in prominent relation with the Canadian Authors Association—thus in his own person linking together the several classes engaged in the making and distribution of books. Dr. Locke was most cordially received and his brief address was heartily appreciated for its pleasant humor and candid statement of the view of librarians concerning book publication. He asked, pointedly, why there should be a standard price for novels when so many fall below literary standards and why biographies are issued at such differing prices. This portion of his address is printed in another column. The rejoinder of publishers is, naturally enough, that they cannot claim to be more infallible in their choice of manuscripts than librarians in their purchase of books, and that they do not desire to make the library a book cemetery by loading it down with dead books.

THE importance of Chicago as a library center will be increased thru the acceptance by Dr. M. L. Raney of the post of Director of Libraries for Chicago University, despite his fondness for Baltimore as the city in which he has made his home for so many years. Dr. Raney did a foremost service to Johns Hopkins University, as it moved from its old quarters within the crowded city to its present splendid location, by the development of a university library building of a new type, occupying proper position as the heart of the university, a development which has been a most remarkable contribution to library architecture. The plan of connecting Gilman Hall, the memorial to the first president of Johns Hopkins, with the great reading room at the rear by a corridor scheme which should provide libraries for special departments, with the professor's seminar room and private office in immediate proximity, was an ingenious and admirable one and rightly won for Dr. Raney high rank among university librarians. It is interesting to note that, while President Gilman came to his task as the organizing president of the great post-graduate university from an apprenticeship as librarian, Dr. Raney reversed the process and entered the library field from that of teaching immediately on receiving doctorate honors from the University in which he had done his post-graduate work. But one year younger than the American Library Association, he has been for more than half that time in relation with Johns Hopkins as fellow, assistant librarian, and since 1908 librarian in this field of increasing importance. Both the university and Baltimore will miss his participation in their affairs, but a great opportunity opens before him in the new post. His successor, Dr. John Calvin French, Collegiate Professor of English, comes to the post from like experience as a teacher within the university and the library profession will wish for him in his new relations that he may achieve a happy repetition of his predecessor's success.

AN unprecedented example of library co-operation is set in the proposed development of a great business library by the combination of the collections in this field of Harvard University and the Boston Public Library, as well as the collection of other material, which will form a central feature of the new College of Business Administration of Harvard University, resulting from the five million dollar gift of George F. Baker. This makes new proof of the importance of the special libraries field which the needs of big business and our general commercial development have brought about, and an innovation is announced in the prophesy that smoking will be permitted in the business library. Cooperation is splendidly triumphant in this combination, which will incidentally have the effect of relieving two great library buildings of threatened congestion on their shelves, and very likely it points the way to the solution of this ever-pressing problem.

THE ideal for "pub. docs." or government publications is, respecting our federal government, that each such document shall be published in one form only, that they shall be printed and put at the service of libraries and the public promptly and that orders should be filled as quickly as tho sent to a private publishing house instead of the great Government Printing Office, the largest in the world. The present Public Printer, George H. Carter, whose cooperation with library ideals has been consistent and persistent since he became secretary of the Joint Committee on Printing of the two houses of the Congress, and the Superintendent of Documents, Alton P. Tisdel, continuing the policies of his predecessors, have had these ideals in mind and are vigorously endeavoring to fulfill them. There is still both confusion and waste in the issue of a document as an executive department publication, an item possibly in both Senate and House documents and in other shapes, tho this however, is much less than formerly. The promptness in publication has been much more nearly realized than before, but there is still much ground for complaint in the slowness with which orders for public documents are filled—and the reason is not far to seek when the facts are known. The office of Superintendent of Public Documents is undermanned and underpaid, with the consequence that trained employees are drafted or desert into the service of other government divisions which offer more convenient location and environment and better pay. Capable employees of continuous training are the one need of this division, but in the half year past fifty-five out of the two hundred and ninety employees left the office for more enticing positions, to the unspeakable inconvenience of the organization and resultant delay in the supply of documents called for by libraries and the public. Minor improvements in the service have been introduced by Mr. Tisdel with the hearty backing of Mr. Carter, but Congress has yet to realize that greater liberality and radical reform are needed in the appropriation and facilities of a governmental division which may be of the greatest possible service in making the work of the government known to its citizens and giving them full benefit of the immensely valuable accumulation of results of research incident to the varied activities of our national government.

Library Book Outlook

A NUMBER of new biographies usher in the past fortnight's new-book publications. Perhaps the most important is *Napoleon*, by Emil Ludwig (Boni and Liveright, $5), a translation of a German work that has been a marked success in Europe. Others are: *Nelson the Man*, by A. Corbett-Smith (Little-Brown, $2.50); *George Rogers Clark*, by Temple Bodley (Houghton-Mifflin, $5), recounting the life and public services of an old frontiersman who was largely responsible for the winning of the West; *The Patriot Novelist of Poland*, by Monica Gardner (Dutton, $5), a life of Henryk Sienkiewicz; *Once a Clown Always a Clown*, by De Wolf Hopper (Little-Brown, $3), the life-story of a well-known American comedian; and *Vagabonds All*, by Edward Abbott Parry (920, Scribner, $5), character-sketches of eleven notorious criminals, who each played an important part in his respective sphere of activity.

There is one worth-while new travel book *Cities of Sicily*, by Edward Hutton (914.5, Little-Brown, $3.50), with illustrations, partly in color, by Harry Morley.

A desirable new atlas is offered in the *Rand-McNally International Atlas of the World* (912 Rand-McNally, $8.50).

In History we have *The New Korea*, by Alleyne Ireland (951, Dutton, $5), an authoritative account of the present Japanese administration.

In Sociology there are four new books of importance. *Clinics, Hospitals, and Health Centers*, by Michel M. Davis (362, Harper, $5), is a treatise on the public-health aspects of these institutions. *Family Disorganization*, by Ernest R. Mowrer (392, University of Chicago Press, $3), is a study of family-life, designed to serve as an introduction to sociological analysis. *The Gang*, by Frederic M. Thrasher (369, University of Chicago Press, $3), is a study of 1,313 Chicago gangs of all ages and types. *Motion Pictures for Instruction*, by Andrew P. Hollis (371, Century, $3), is a valuable contribution to the subject.

Two other new non-fiction titles deserving of mention are *Gilbert and Sullivan*, by A. H. Godwin (782, Dutton, $2.50), a consideration of the Gilbert and Sullivan light operas, discussing both the librettos and the music; and *Luigi Pirandello*, by Walter Starkie (852, Dutton, $3), a study of Pirandello as dramatist and novelist.

Zane Grey has a new novel, *Under the Tonto Rim* (Harper, $2), another tale of Western pioneering that appeared serially under the title of "The Bee-Hunter."

From an accumulation of recent book-titles bearing on subjects in the field of Useful Arts, we cull the following, representing new books on topics already more or less well covered by older books:

Fields of Work for Women, by Miriam S. Leuck (600, Appleton, $2.50); and *One Hundred and One Ways for Women to Make Money*, by Ruth Leigh (600, Simon and Schuster, $2).

A *Bird's Eye View of Inventions*, by A. Frederick Collins (608, Crowell, $2); and *Great Moments in Science*, by Marion F. Lansing (608, Doubleday-Page, $2.50), an account of great discoveries and inventions.

Outwitting Middle Age, by Carl Ramus (613, Century, $2); *The Science of Keeping Young*, by Alfred W. McCann (613.2, Doran, $3); *Your Foods and You*, by Ida C. Bailey Allen (613.2, Doubleday-Page, $1.50); *Indigestion, What It Is and How to Prevent It*, by Arthur L. Holland (613.2, Appleton, $1.25); *Disease Prevention*, by Herbert H. Waite (614, Crowell, $4.50); *Faith, Health, and Common Sense*, by Edwin A. McAlpin (615, Doran, $1.50); *Microscopy in the Service of Man*, by Robert M. Neill (616, Holt, $1), in the Home University Library; and *Birth Control and the State*, by C. P. Blacker (614.1, Dutton, $1), in the "To-day and To-morrow" series.

The Model Maker, by W. Edmonds Spon (620 Spon, $2.10); *How to Read Blueprints*, by William S. Lowndes (620, McKay, $2); *Elements of Alternating Currents and Alternating Current Apparatus*, by Jacob L. Beaver (621.3, Longmans, $4); *The Ship Under Sail*, by P. Keble Chatterton (623.8, Lippincott, $4.50), commemorating the glory of the sailing-ship thru the ages; *Fresh Air and Ventilation*, by Charles E. A. Winslow (628, Dutton, $2); *The Book of the Aeroplane*, by J. Laurence Pritchard (629.1, Longmans, $2.75); *Airmen and Aircraft*, by Henry H. Arnold (629.1, Ronald Press, $3.50) and *Conquering the Air*, by Archibald Williams (629.1, Nelson, $2).

How Shall Country Youth Be Served? by Harlan P. Douglass (630, Doran, $2.50); *The Cowboy and His Interpreters*, by Douglas Branch (630, Appleton, $2.50); *An Introduction to the Marketing of Farm Products*, by Alva H. Benton (630, Shaw, $3); *Farm Accounting Principles and Problems*, by Karl F. McMurry (631, Shaw, $5); *Dairy Cattle, Selection, Feeding, and*

Management, by William W. Yapp (637, Wiley, $2.25); *The Little Kitchen Garden*, by Dorothy Giles (635, Little-Brown, $1.75); *You and Your Dog*, by Fred C. Kelly (636.7, Doubleday-Page, $1.75); *Pursuing the Whale*, by John A. Cook (639, Houghton-Mifflin, $4); and *Whaling North and South*, by Frank V. Morley (639, Century, $3).

The Blue-Book of Cookery and Manual of House Management, by Isabel C. Smith (640, Funk & Wagnalls, $2.50; *If You Must Cook*, by Jennette Lee (641, Dodd-Mead, $1.50); *The Modern Cook-Book*, by Mrs. L. Schwarzkopf and others (641, A. & C. Boni, $2); *Coffee and Waffles*, by Alice F. MacDougall (642, Doubleday-Page, $1.50), containing menus and suggestions for hostesses; *Table Service for the Hostess*, by Edna S. Tipton (642, Appleton, $1.50); *Law for the Home Owner*, by John B. Green (643, Macmillan, $2.50); *The House of Simplicity*, by Ethel Davis Seal (645, Century, $3); and *Modern Priscilla Home Furnishing Book* (645, Priscilla Pub. Co., $2).

An Introduction to Business, by Harold H. Maynard (658, Ronald Press, $4); *Commercial Management*, a handbook of modern business-practice, by Cunliffe L. Bolling (658, Pitman, $3); *Rudiments of Business Finance*, by Edward S. Mead (658, Appleton, $2); *Accounting Elements*, by Wesley J. McCarty (657, Prentice-Hall, $5); *Accounting Systems, Principles and Problems of Installation*, by George E. Bennett (657, Shaw, $5); *Auditing Procedure*, by De Witt C. Eggleston (657, Wiley, $4.50); *Graphic Methods for Presenting Business Statistics*, by John R. Riggleman (658, McGraw-Hill, $2.50); *Principles of Publicity*, by Glenn C. Quiett (659, Appleton, $3); *Advertising, Its Problems and Methods*, by John H. Cover (659, Appleton, $3); *Co-operative Advertising by Competition*, by Hugh E. Agnew (659, Harper, $4); *An Introduction to Retail Advertising*, by Arthur J. Brewster (659, Shaw, $4); *Writing Advertising*, by James D. Woolf (659, Ronald Press, $3.50); *Copy*, by George P. Metzger (659, Doubleday-Page, $2); *Advertising Campaigns*, by Bernard Lichtenberg (659, Alex. Hamilton Inst., $2); and *The Handbook of Window Display*, by William N. Taft (659, McGraw-Hill, $5).

Ships and Cargoes, by Joseph Leeming (650, Doubleday-Page, $2.50); *The Merchant-Shipping Industry*, by H. C. Calvin (656, Wiley, $4); *Whalers and Whaling*, by E. Keble Chatterton (699, Lippincott, $4.50); *An Outline of Automatic Telephony*, by William Aitken (654, Van Nostrand, $1.75); *The Home Radio Up-to-Date*, by A. Hyatt Verrill (654, Harper, $1); *Radio Beam and Broadcast*, by A. H. Morse (654, Van Nostrand, $4); *The Commercial Side of Literature*, by Michael Joseph (655, Harper, $2.50); and *Practical Proof-Reading*, by Albert H. Highton (655, United Typothetae, $4).

Chemistry in the World's Work, by Harrison E. Howe (660, Van Nostrand, $3); and *Introduction to Industrial Chemistry*, by S. I. Levy (660, McGraw-Hill, $4).

LOUIS N. FEIPEL.

The Open Round Table

The Tower Book Stack

To the Editor of the LIBRARY JOURNAL:

In your editorial of December 15 commenting on plans of the College of the City of New York for tower book stacks you call attention to a drawback which would be a serious one if the floor space is too restricted and the arrangements necessitate an attendant on each floor.

You may be interested to learn that the John Crerar Library is contemplating adopting the idea of Yale and putting its books in a tower but we shall take care to arrange the stations so that each can serve three floors. This is the present arrangement of our bookstacks which are almost tower-like, being about the same size as those proposed for Yale for the Sterling Library. In this way each attendant serves about as many books as he can serve effectively.

The station is of course on the middle floor of the three and I think anyone having experience with stack service will realize that the separating of these three floors and consequently of the attendants is by no means an unmixed evil.

CLEMENT W. ANDREWS, *Librarian,*
John Crerar Library, Chicago.

Inter-library Loans

To the Editor of the LIBRARY JOURNAL:

I am moved to object to the statement in the first full editorial on p. 1140 of the number for December 15, and especially the sentence beginning "Interlibrary loans whether, etc."

There is no reason under the sun, and more and more libraries are coming to agree with this, why interlibrary loans must be "closely confined to those students, etc." This is a narrow conception of the functions of the library, especially one that is supported by public money. Harvard and L. C. have set the fashion of trying to limit the beneficiaries of library loans to college professors. Some of the rest of us believe that almost anything in any library should be lent to any responsible person who can present proper credentials and use the book under such auspices as reasonably assure safety.

JAMES I. WYER, *Director,*
New York State Library.

Library Work

Notes of Development in all Branches of Library Activity Particularly as Shown in Current Library Literature

New Fiction Reserves Discontinued in Chicago

THE Chicago Public Library main building has discontinued the reservation of seven-day fiction, and the ruling has been well received by the public, says the January *Staff News*. Fiction which has been in the library six months or longer may be reserved as heretofore and the rental collection contains a limited number of copies of titles much in demand. In addition to reducing materially the reserve routine and releasing new books for all comers the new system has great moral value in that it "wipes out the long rows of uncalled for reserves that formerly stared mockingly at the empty-handed seeker for a new novel who did not know about the reserve system."

The answer to the question which now occurs: "Should the next step be to abolish reserves on non-fiction for one month after it is listed in the *Book Bulletin?*" will be of interest to many besides the circulation staff at Chicago.

Stack Privileges for Students

SOME interesting innovations in practice in reserving books and granting stack privileges are described by Harold L. Leupp, librarian of the University of California Library, in his annual report for the year ending June 30, 1926. With the opening of the fall semester in August, 1925, readers were required to remain in the reserved book room while using reserved books, with the result that the number of recorded transactions dropped from 629,000 in 1924-1925 to 119,000 in 1925-1926. In January, 1926, the privilege of unrestricted access to the stack hitherto enjoyed only by candidates for the doctorate was extended to all graduate students. It is expected that this will automatically reduce the number of books segregated in seminar rooms, as will the proposed reading room for graduate students and honor students which will probably be opened on the second floor next August.

A Classification for Construction

TO simplify filing in the architect's office to the point where an adequate file can be operated by a person without technical knowledge, and to afford an opportunity to advertisers to send their literature to architects premarked for filing, the American Institute of Architects has devised and adopted a Standard Construction Classification. A single copy of the scheme will be furnished to any library requesting it of the Scientific Research Department of the A. I. A., 19 West 44th Street, New York. File numbers should preferably be set near the lower right-hand corner and the upper left-hand corner of the front cover of a bound publication, or in a similar position of the face of a single sheet.

The classification has forty major divisions, beginning with Preparation of Site, Excavation, Masonry Materials, Concrete and Monolithic Construction, Brick Work, Foundations, continuing in the same logical order and employing cross-references to Hardware, Furnishings, Plumbing, Heating and Ventilating, Electrical Work, and ending with Insulation, Landscape, Acoustics, and Regulations.

Co-Operative Book Buying

IOWA librarians have inaugurated a co-operative buying plan which promises economies in time and money, and improvement in the collections, especially of children's books, which are often both badly worn and badly selected, in many of the smaller libraries.

The Iowa Library Association has appointed an advisory committee (Mrs. Ellis of Iowa Falls, Miss Walpole of Storm Lake, and Miss Leech of West Liberty) and the Library Commission will support the plan in every way possible, including supervision of the lists by the Secretary. The Hertzberg Bindery at Des Moines has taken over the commercial side of it and will send out monthly to co-operators a book list consisting of new and old books of fiction, non-fiction and juveniles from which selections will be made by the various libraries. "It is thought that by concentrating on certain titles a much larger discount can be secured from the dealer, and the benefit of this will be given to the libraries," writes Miss Robinson, secretary of the Commission, who promises us a report on results when the plan has been for some time in action.

American Libraries from the British Point of View

ONE expected result of the visit of librarians from overseas to American libraries on the occasion of the celebration last fall of the A. L. A.'s fiftieth anniversary is beginning to make its appearance in the British library periodicals. A comparison of "The American

Library Position" with the British is the leading article (unsigned) in the November 1926 issue of *The Librarian and Book World*.

It is " abundantly clear" to the writer that the standing of the library in the American community is much higher than it is in Great Britain, and that applies to all sorts of libraries. The greater support and appreciation accorded the American libraries appears natural in view of conditions. The attitude as to moral support is not in doubt, and the standing so achieved is largely due to the "insistent and skilful publicity" of the members of the profession and of the associations. The generosity of rich donors, and the attitude of the administrations in their areas, have also done much towards giving American libraries their present standing. Owing to their financial position, the libraries of the United States have been able to develop their activities not only on general lines, but also on educational lines. They have been looked at by educators as educational institutions. While in some places there has been local jealousy between library and educational boards, the importance of adequate book provision has "never been in question." Work along adult educational lines, with children, and with the foreign born are products of this accepted point of view.

The nature of American domestic life, in large cities especially, affects the position. The apartment house system reduces the desire to accumulate even books. An appreciably large section of the community is thus thrown on the public library. "Further, the restlessness which is as pronounced in the Middle West as it is in the Eastern States, inevitably reacts against the peaceful inclination which true bookishness implies, and which leads the better-class British working man to gather together some sort of private library. It would not appear that Americans buy books so freely as individuals, as do the British and the French. With the exception of a few firms in the large cities, the inferior standing of these stores is very marked."

State Library Service

A TABLE of library statistics arranged by the Research Division of the National Education Association and published in the Association *Journal* for January enables the directors of library service in any one state to compare the amount of public library service rendered there with that of any other state. Alabama, for instance, ranks 45 in per capita expenditures for libraries; 36 in per cent library expenditures is of school costs; 44 in books circulated per capita; and ties with New Mexico for 39th place in percentage of population with library service. Figures for library service used in the table were taken from the A. L. A.'s *Library Extension*, 1926; those for education from the U. S. Bureau of Education.

Summaries are given for the whole United States. The population of the country, according to the 1920 Census, was 105,710,620. The total library income or expenditure in 1925 was $35,347,156; the expenditure per capita, 33 cents; the circulation of books per capita, 2.11; and the percentage of population without service, 43. The total public school expenditure in 1923-1924 is in imposing contrast to the library expenditure of the next year. The sum was not far from two billion dollars ($1,820,743,936).

American Library Statistics

AT the end of an entire decade since the collection of the last preceding library statistics the U. S. Bureau of Education published in December *Statistics of Public, Society, and School Libraries, 1923*, as *Bulletin* 1926, no. 9. The bulletin was prepared in the Library Division with the co-operation of the Statistical Division. The last preceding compilation, covering the year 1913, was issued as *Bulletin*, 1915, no. 25.

Form schedules were distributed to an address list of about 18,000 public, society, and school libraries. The number of replies suitable for tabulation received for 1923 from libraries having 1,000 volumes and over was 8,544, while 2,569 replies came from smaller libraries, making a total of 11,113 libraries reporting. Of these, the first group reported a total of 126,914,414 volumes; the second, 1,437,559 volumes. Of the 8,544 libraries, 4,855 contained from 1,000 to 4,999 volumes, and 3,689 had 5,000 volumes or more. The 1923 returns show a decrease from 1913 of 598 in the number of libraries reporting between 1,000 and 4,999 volumes and an increase of 840 libraries having 5,000 volumes or more. However, many libraries having less than 5,000 volumes in 1913 had grown beyond that limit by 1923, and a large number of the small libraries failed to send in returns for 1923 in time for use. The number of libraries reporting statistics to the bureau for 1908, which were published as *Bulletin*, 1909, no. 5, was similarly incomplete as compared with 1903. The 1908 and 1913 lists limited themselves to libraries having 5,000 or more volumes. The present list lowers the minimum to 3,000 volumes, so that detailed statistics are given for 5,080 public, society and school libraries having that number of volumes or more.

These 5,080 libraries of 3,000 volumes or more, whose statistics are given in the report, had 2,844 branches, and reported an aggregate of 120,841,060 volumes. Additions amounting

to 6,565,652 volumes were made by 4,335 of the libraries, and 3,110 libraries reported 13,756,738 borrowers' cards in force. The issues of books for use outside of the library, as reported by 3,199 libraries, aggregated 207,709,650 volumes. The number of libraries reported as entirely free to the public was 2,788, while 1,167 were free for reference. Of the 5,080 public, society and school libraries, 2,751 received $28,010,202 from direct taxation or public appropriations. The aggregate income of 3,773 libraries was $44,686,394. The amount expended for books by 3,816 libraries was $8,683,144 for the year; 3,375 libraries paid $21,974,624 for salaries, the aggregate expenditure of 4,087 libraries being $40,326,522. The number of books in libraries of 1,000 volumes or more per 100 people in the United States in 1903 was 68; in 1908, 72; and in 1923, 115.

This report is usefully supplemented by the Bureau's *Educational Directory: 1925*, published last November as *Bulletin* (1925), no. 1. Table XXIV, "Librarians of Public and Society Libraries" lists about 2,100 names, mentioning the location of the library, its name, and number of bound volumes as well as the name of the librarian.

A City Library Survey

A "LIBRARY Survey for Greater Wilmington," is a statistical study of the present use of the Library in Wilmington, Delaware, followed by recommendations for the future. It is interesting as an example of intelligent forecasting, similar to methods used by telephone and other business interests. Maps and charts present the material graphically.

The study was made by Frank Morton Jones, a member of the Wilmington Library Board, at the request of the president of the Board who said, "I am trying to map out the future growth of the Library; I am thinking of Wilmington forty years hence, and am anxious to lay the lines now for acquiring the appropriate sites for branch libraries a generation or more hence."

The basic data are the registration records tabulated and plotted geographically. Only adult registered borrowers were taken into account. The first seventy-five names in each month for a three-year period were chosen. From these non-residents were omitted. Non-residents in Wilmington are a large group, numbering 4,043, or slightly over fifteen per cent of the total registration. The ratio of the names tabulated to all adult card holders was about as one is to five.

The first conclusion reported is that the percentage of registration remains uniformly high within a circle of approximately one mile radius. In an area almost wholly within one-half mile of the main library the ratio of borrowers to families was seventy-two per cent. In an adjacent area varying from one-half to one mile distant the ratio was again seventy-two per cent, but in the next area with distances from one to one and one-half miles and more there was a decided drop to 34 per cent. It would be interesting to know how closely these percentages would hold for juvenile card holders.

In order to study the correlation between registration and the distribution of books and to discover whether or not the more distant borrower makes less use of the library, a test check was made for a week. The city was, for convenience of comparison, broken up into seven areas and the circulation and registration determined for each.

For each area the correspondence between percentage of total registration and percentage of total circulation was so close that Mr. Jones felt justified in assuming that the city could be mapped in terms either of registration or of circulation and be substantially correct for the other.

The requirements that a branch library may give most effective service are stated as follows: 1. To grow indefinitely and to serve satisfactorily sections somewhat diverse, the branch should not be identified too definitely in the minds of the people with any included restricted area, or with more or less defined cultural or racial groups. 2. It should be of ready access, and if possible the situation and exterior should call attention to its presence and purpose. 3. It should have a supply of books sufficiently large and varied to meet the requirements of its readers. 4. It should be adequately staffed.

From a study of reports of other library systems, the author concludes: 1. That many branches have been planned on too small a scale, and that 15,000 to 25,000 books and sometimes even more are the accepted requirements for a strong branch in the larger cities. 2. That, judged by conditions in fifty cities, one central building cares for a population up to 50,000, and that above this number, one branch is, on an average, established for every additional 35,000.

The author examines in detail the character of the territories served by the main library and the various branches, and in the light of all the information gathered makes recommendations of locations for branches to serve best the city not only as it is now but also as it seems destined to be. As to the validity of the conclusions and recommendations as they apply to Wilmington, one unacquainted with the city cannot say, but as to their general soundness

they accord with the experience and observation of the reviewer.

The closing paragraph is significant. "Finally, without attempt to recapitulation, it may be stated that this report, recognizing that in any working library system for Wilmington and vicinity there is both room and necessity for a wide range of agencies—book-truck service, loan collections, school libraries, stations for racial and cultural groups and for isolated areas not otherwise provided for, for subbranches, and for branches in separate buildings—yet it has endeavored to emphasize the belief that the large branch offers the best opportunity for satisfactory service; that these in location and available space should permit and justify expansion far beyond the size of our existing branches; and that therefore the selection of sites for permanent branches becomes of primary importance."

CARL VITZ.

To Standardize Periodicals

VARIATIONS and shortcomings in the form and makeup of medical periodicals are graphically presented by Charles Frankenberger, librarian of the Medical Society of the County of Kings, Brooklyn, N. Y., in a paper recently reprinted from the August 21st issue of the *Journal of the American Medical Association*. Titles changed in the middle of a volume, indiscriminate use of series numbering, several sets of paging in the same volume, text matter among advertising pages, and subdivision of the title of an individual journal are some of the irritating practices which make consultation difficult for the librarian and worse for the untrained reader.

As an instance of a title changed in the middle of the volume the writer mentions the *Pennsylvania Medical Journal*, which with number 7 of volume 26 became the *Atlantic Medical Journal*, making it impossible to place that years's issues, bound as one volume, in alphabetical order on the shelves. For an odd use of the term series, there is the *Edinburgh Medical Journal*, which completed its first series in 1896, and in 1897 began with volume 1 of a "new series," which ran thru twenty-three volumes. In 1908 it began another new series, commencing with volume 1. This should have been indicated as a third series, which it properly is. If a request is made, or a quotation given, without the year, of new series, volume 19, it is not known whether it is volume 19 of the new (or second) series of volume 19 or the new (or third) series that is wanted. In the case of the *Irish Journal of Medical Science*, each year's issues form a new series numerically.

Several sets of paging in the same volume constitute one of the medical bibliographer's greatest grievances. In the twelve numbers of the *Proceedings of the Royal Society of Medicine*, there are twenty-five separate sets of paging. In the *British Medical Journal*, three separate sets of paging are issued: the regular journal matter, "supplement" devoted to association and society items, and "Epitome to Current Medical Literature." In a number of French periodicals it is the custom to issue, with separate paging, "fiches bibliographiques" and "bulletin bibliographique," containing bibliographic references to medical literature, which should be bound in with the other part of the journal. A very bad form is that followed in the *Wiener Klinische Wochenschrift* of folio size which publishes in each issue a supplement (Sonderbeilage) in octavo size, which should be incorporated in the bound volume as it is listed in the yearly index. In some periodicals as in the *Monthly Labor Review*, each issue is paged separately, not very conveniently for indexing by the volume or for quoting in bibliographic references.

The custom of continuing text matter in the advertising pages becomes perilous when such matter is not paged to follow the article from which it is continued. The regular paging of the January 1926 issue of the *Modern Hospital* ends with page 102 and the February issue begins duly with page 103, but reading matter in the January issue was continued on fifteen of the separately numbered advertising pages.

The ideal size for medical periodicals is the octavo. The size now varies from the *Denver Medical Bulletin*, a trifle larger than a postcard, to *La Voz Medica* of Madrid, which appears in newspaper size (18 by 24 inches).

Conference Scholarships

THRU the vision and kindness of Mrs. Jessie Woodford Lyman, better known to librarians as Jessie Woodford and long chief of the public documents division of the Chicago Public Library; one selected member of the staff of that library is to have A. L. A. Conference expenses paid each year to the extent of one hundred dollars. The management of the scholarship is in the hands of the Librarian and the Board.

Calendar

Feb. 10-11. At the Skirvin Hotel, Oklahoma City. Oklahoma Library Association's nineteenth annual conference coinciding with the annual meeting of the Oklahoma Teachers Association.

March 4-5. At Vassar College, Poughkeepsie, N. Y. Conference on children's reading.

March 11-12. At Atlantic City. Joint meeting of the New Jersey Library Association, Pennsylvania Library Club, and American Library Institute.

June 20-25. At Toronto, Canada. Forty-ninth annual meeting of the American Library Association.

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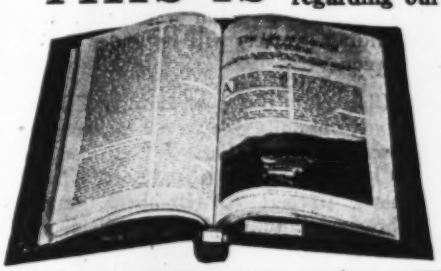

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THE PUBLISHERS.

In the Library World

BY the will of Caroline M. Hewins, late librarian of the Hartford Public Library, her large collection of old fashioned children's books was bequeathed to the Connecticut Historical Society. A complete set of the LIBRARY JOURNAL and her miscellaneous library amounting to about sixteen hundred volumes were left to the Hartford Public Library, as well as her illustrated children's books published since 1860 —about 200 volumes.

Robert A. Griffing, secretary of the Board of Trustees, who died in October, left $15,000 to the Hartford Public Library, to form the nucleus of a fund for a new building. A trust fund of $25,000 was left by the will of Edward H. Case, who died in December 17.

District of Columbia

RECENT amendments to the thirty-year-old organic library law of the Washington (D. C.) Public Library broaden the scope of the library and give it a new charter of liberty and progress, according to George F. Bowerman in his annual report for the year ending June 30, 1926. The old law contained no mention of branch libraries. The first and most important amendment provides that "said library shall consist of a central library and such number of branch libraries so located and so supported as to furnish books and other printed matter and information service convenient to the homes and offices of all residents of the District." It is hoped that the enactment of the law will be speedily followed by the appropriations needed to make it come true as Carnegie funds are no longer available for library buildings.

Another amendment specifically authorizes the previous practice of lending books without fees to residents of Maryland and Virginia—mostly government employees—who have regular business or employment or attend school in the District. The amended law also authorizes the trustees to lend books to other residents of adjacent counties of Maryland and Virginia for an annual fee of three dollars.

A new and unsought amendment of the law provides that after next June all receipts from fines and penalties shall be paid into the United States Treasury to the credit of the District. These receipts exceeded $15,000 last year. "The avowed purpose of the amendment was not, however, to cripple the library, but only in the interest of good budgetary practice." The appropriation for 1927 was increased by $34,200 over that for 1926 and included an item of $20,000 to be applied to much needed renovation of the central library and Takoma Park branch buildings. Circulation of books last year rose to 1,298,405 volumes and 118,426 mounted pictures.

Ohio

THE City Council of Youngstown has made an appropriation of $25,000 to initiate a constructive branch library program, and with resources already in hand it is probable that three building projects will be under way during the year.

THE Ohio State Board of Library Examiners met at Columbus, January 8, and organized as follows: Chalmers Hadley, chairman, librarian of Cincinnati and Hamilton County Library, Cincinnati; Herbert S. Hirshberg, secretary, state librarian, Columbus. Other members are Linda A. Eastman, librarian of the Cleveland Public Library, Cleveland; Mrs. Kent Hughes, Lima; H. H. Murphy, assistant county superintendent of schools, Barnesville.

Under the law creating the board its membership consists of the state librarian and the librarians of the the two public libraries of largest circulation in the state and two persons representing rural library interests to be elected by the State Library Board. Mrs Hughes and Mr. Murphy are the elective members. Members receive no compensation but are allowed expenses to attend meetings.

At this first meeting the Board agreed upon minimum standards for county district librarians which are as follows: A certificate from a one year library school accredited by the A.L.A. Board of Education for Librarianship, a degree from a recognized college or university and five years' successful library experience. Or, the Board may in its discretion recognize equivalent education and experience and hold examinations to determine the fitness of applicants.

These are the first standards of state wide application to be set for librarians doing public library work in Ohio.

The Board of Library Examiners has established the following minimum standards for county district librarians of Ohio: A certificate from a one year library school accredited by the A.L.A. Board of Education for Librarianship, a degree from a recognized college or university and five years' successful library ex-

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perience. Or, the Board of Library Examiners may in its discretion recognize equivalent education and experience and hold examinations to determine the fitness of applicants.

The Board will receive applications for certification as county district librarian on or before March first, at the office of the secretary. For application blanks address Herbert S. Hirshberg, secretary of the State Board of Library Examiners, State Library, Columbus, Ohio. (Certification of applicants is being made at this time for the purpose of preparing an eligible list for the position of county district librarian, Greene County, Ohio. For information address Mrs. S. O. Hale, 128 West Market Street, Xenia, Ohio.)

Michigan

ENLARGEMENT of the main building and expansion of the training class come in for consideration in the sixty-first annual report of the Detroit Library Commission dated November 15, 1926. The present main library building, opened in 1921, originally designed for a city which might grow to a million population, is now serving a city of 1,319,630. Concentration of homes near the Art Centre, augmented by apartment buildings, already taxes the physical capacity of the library. Space is still available to the north and south of the present building. The president of the commission urges that a fund be created by this year's appropriations and added to each subsequent year, until there is enough available to add one wing to the main library building and to build a regional library in the northwest section, perhaps in three years' time. The first regional library was opened during the year at the corner of Kercheval and Eastlawn avenues. Total circulation thru all agencies of the library was 4,105,101.

Thirty-two assistants, more than double the number of apprentices available for substitute service, were lost from the staff, normally numbering 250, by resignation or other causes. The local possibilities for recruiting the institutional forces, says Adam Strohm, librarian, are limited to the training class with a membership of fifteen. This class should be enlarged not only as regards students but as to the staff of instructors, which now has only one full-time member. The quota of trained assistants cannot now be filled from within, and "the field at large is closely watched by keen-eyed scouts representing hungry institutions. Our correspondence and negotiations often prove futile. The rigidity of the scale of our salaries, the budget restrictions and other 'red tape,' necessarily preclude our taking quick advantage of a candidate or carrying on negotiations with any assurance that our commitment will stand in court. More latitude should be allowed from the point of view of finance as well as administration."

Iowa

THE first building of the Sioux City building program voted last March is to be opened about the middle of February. The population of Sioux City is but 75,000 and its authorization of a $100,000 branch building program is an endorsement of public libraries which we regret not having included in the brief summary of important happenings of 1926 in Iowa. Particulars of the building will be given in a later number of the JOURNAL.

Missouri

THE University of Missouri Library has received as a gift the 3000-volume private library of Doctor William Benjamin Smith, professor emeritus of philosophy of Tulane University. Doctor Smith was professor of physics, University of Missouri, 1885-1888 and professor of mathematics, 1888-1893. He was then called to the chair of mathematics at Tulane University. In 1906, he became professor of philosophy. In 1915, when he became professor emeritus, free to pursue his researches in religious and theological subjects in which he always had a keen interest.

There are three hundred and twenty-five volumes in the field of mathematics and physics, three hundred in philosophy, nine hundred in religion and theology. The religious books include translations of the Bible, the reproductions of several celebrated codices of the Old and New Testament such as: the Sinaitic Codex discovered and edited by Tischendorff, Codex Ephraemi Syri Rescriptus, Codex Claromontanus, Bezae Codex Cantabrigienses, Codex Amiatinus.

CONVINCED that both the needs of the library situation in the state and a reasonable desire to have Missouri keep abreast of her sister states in the wide field of educational endeavor justify it in asking the support of all progressively minded citizens for a moderate and well-considered program of expansion in the activities of the state library commission, the Missouri Library Association asks the legislature for an appropriation of $40,000 for the years 1927 and 1928, and figures and suggestions to help local libraries in doing their part in the campaign have been distributed to librarians thruout the state. Appropriations in the past have been insufficient to permit the efficient performance of more than one-fourth or one-fifth of the normal and reasonable volume of service which the commission feels it should be

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rendering to the rural districts of Missouri. At its highest peak in 1921-22 the appropriation granted for the biennial period was $26,700, or only $13,350 a year, including the salaries of five people, the purchase of necessary new books and the rebinding of old ones, and the accompanying contingent expenses, to provide library service for nearly two million people dwelling in all parts of the state. In 1925 the appropriation was cut to $22,000, or $11,000 a year. During the same period the city of Springfield, Mo., spent approximately $18,500 a year in library service for its 39,631 people, Joplin $16,000 for 29,902 people, and Sedalia approximately $12,000 a year for 21,144 people. Assuming for Missouri the same proportion between population and appropriation which obtains in Nebraska would give the state $76,932 for one biennial period, the North Dakota proportion would give it $109,611, Wisconsin $136,162, North Carolina $66,379, and Illinois $29,956. What the library commission has been able to accomplish in the last year with the means at hand was outlined in the LIBRARY JOURNAL for January 1 (p. 44).

New Mexico

COMPARED with the three libraries of varying size in New England discussed in the *American Mercury* of last September (see LIBRARY JOURNAL, Oct. 1, 1926) the Santa Fé Public Library stands far in the lead with its representation of modern writers, says Louise Lowber Cassidy in the first issue of the New Mexico Military Institute library bulletin, *The Library*. The Institute is located at Roswell, and the bulletin is edited by the Institute librarian, Paul Horgan. The Santa Fé library of 9,500 volumes is a reflection of the tastes of the small but sophisticated reading population of the town, according to Miss Edwin Sue Goree, librarian, in an interview with Miss Cassidy. Santa Féans have a large appetite for poetry, perhaps because so any of them are writing it themselves. The reference collection is most complete on the side of the history, ethnology and art of the Southwest. A new department of Spanish literature, history and other subjects is being developed and a special effort is being made to encourage Spanish patronage, nearly a thousand of the 2,300 borrowers being of Spanish descent.

France

LAST-MINUTE gifts to the American Library in Paris in the closing days of its two-weeks' campaign in December to bring its annual income to the total necessary to secure an extra six thousand dollars from the Laura Spelman Rockefeller Memorial were the cause of an oversubscription of over $1,800. The Trustees of the Memorial early in March 1925 granted the library a sum of $4,000 a year for a period of three years, and further agreed to contribute one dollar for each two dollars received from sources other than the Memorial, over and above a maintenance budget of $4,000 per annum, payments on this basis not to exceed $6,000 per year, for three years. An income of $36,000 was therefore necessary, of which the library could safely estimate only $30,589. An appeal thru the Paris editions of the *New York Herald* and the *Chicago Tribune* and elsewhere finally assured the full amount.

The present quarters of the library were taxed to the utmost by the increase in use of the past year, when the circulation of books rose to 12,000 a month from a collection of 35,000 volumes. At a special meeting of the Board of Trustees held last November the question of a new library building representative of the best in American architecture and library practice was thoroly discussed. An admirable site on the rue du Four, just off the Boulevard Saint Germain, could probably be easily secured. This is the site given some years ago to the American University Union by the City of Paris, and turned back to the city when the Union found it impossible to secure funds for the erection of a building. Efforts are now being made to enlist the interest of the usual American giving agencies in this new building for the American Library. Other important developments of the year beside the increase in circulation are the establishment of a student's library of American law, sponsored by the leading American lawyers practicing in Paris; the setting-up of a Union catalog of American books and periodicals in the other libraries of Paris; the growth of the extension service, which during the month of July, for example, sent 405 books out of town; the regular monthly publication of accession lists; and the maintenance of a display of American books in which fifty-six American publishers are co-operating.

The Paris Library School, whose enrollment in previous years had been limited to twenty, has increased the number of its students to thirty. The division of this year's class by nationalities shows twelve French, seven Norwegians, two Americans, two Germans, two Polish, two Russions, one Belgian, one Czech, one Dane. Twenty-one of the thirty students had done library work before entering the school.

Thru the courtesy of European delegates, returning from the A. L. A., was given an interesting series of lectures on the organization of libraries in various countries. So far Switzerland, Germany, Holland, Russia and Cambodia have been treated.

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Current Literature and Bibliography

The *United States Daily* now prints a daily list and description of U. S. Government publications available to libraries.

Henry E. Bliss has almost completed final revision of his manuscript on *The Organization of Knowledge and the Classification of Books*, and he expects to be able to announce publication plans within a few months.

Recent publications which will be reviewed soon in the LIBRARY JOURNAL are: *Official Publications of European Governments*, published by the Reference Service on International Affairs of the American Library in Paris; Cannons' *Bibliography of Library Economy* (A.L.A.); W. C. Berwick Sayers' *Manual of Library Classification* (to be reviewed by William S. Merrill of the Newberry Library), and Max Meisel's *Bibliography of American Natural History* (by Claribel R. Barnett, Librarian of the U. S. Department of Agriculture Library).

Anne Carroll Moore's *Crossroads to Childhood; Books for Middle-Aged Children* (Doran, 292 p., $2), true to its subtitle, has a thirty-four-page annotated list of books for readers of that hobbledehoy age. It is not intended as a bibliography of best books, but to fill the need for a list of plenty of good books of many kinds. "In the Teens" is another list of more than one hundred novels and plays and books of poetry and biography. These lists give additional value to a book containing a dozen essays of Miss Moore's customary quality and equipped with an index of the sort that librarians dream about.

The A.L.A. curriculum study practice sheets for teaching routine practice in circulation work are now ready and are obtainable from the headquarters office for 85 cents a set, or 75 cents in lots of ten or more.

The practice sheets have been prepared to enable students of library routine to learn how to perform routine cataloging and circulation duties by self instruction and to enable teachers to eliminate formal instruction on such duties in class periods. In addition to giving all the information necessary to do the work presented each sheet gives as a practice assignment problems calculated to test the knowledge gained and to develop skill.

A Mid-Century Child and her Books, by the late Caroline M. Hewins, tho divided into two parts, "The Child Herself" and "Her Books," soon makes it evident that a child who was offered *Uncle Tom's Cabin* as consolation for a bumped head and *The Alhambra* to entice her away from an open doorway during a thunderstorm never found her daily life very often dissociated from books. Miss Hewins found, indeed, that "the influence of books that I read over and over between the ages of five and fifteen has been so been so great upon my later life, its tastes and pursuits, that in the last twenty years I have collected copies of as many of them as possible for a standard of comparison with what children read now." From these, no doubt were taken the three dozen illustrations, including four from "Peter Piper's Practical Principles." No one who ever heard Miss Hewins recité the Peter Piper Alphabet would concede the book to be complete without them. (Macmillan, $2, 136 p. illus.)

Ten outstanding articles in the January magazines as selected by the Library Advisory Council (Arthur E. Bostwick, Dorsey W. Hyde and Edward F. Stevens) of the Franklin Square Subscription Agency are:

"Wanted: A Substitute for Righteousness," by Avis D. Carlson, *Harpers;* "The Plague of Laws," by William P. Helm, Jr., *American Mercury;* "32,000 R. P. M.," by Robert M. Bruere, *Survey Graphic;* "Water Power and Its Social Uses," by Alfred E. Smith, *Survey Graphic;* "The Problem of Heart Disease," by Louis I. Dublin, *Harpers;* "Gnats and Camels," by Ernest Elmo Calkins, *Atlantic Monthly;* "A Century of Shotgunnery," by Charles W. Sawyer, *Field and Stream;* "The Duty of Doubt," by J. B. S. Haldane, *Century;* "The Grouping of Nations," by Archibald Cary Coolidge, *Foreign Affairs;* "The High Cost of Weather," by Ellsworth Huntington, *Review of Reviews.*

Bibliography of Library Economy, the first publication of the year in the field of librarianship, will be welcomed by an eager public.

This is a classified index to the professional periodical literature in English relating to library economy, printing, methods of publishing, copyright, bibliography, etc., from 1876 to 1920, compiled by Harry George Turner Cannons, borough librarian, Finsbury, London, who performed a similar service for the professional literature to 1909 by the publication of the first edition of his *Bibliography*.

In the present work sixty-five professional periodicals are indexed (as compared with forty-eight in 1909) to find the 32,500 references which are arranged under twenty-five main sec-

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tions and nearly three thousand subsections. As announced above, a review will appear later in the LIBRARY JOURNAL.

In the Library Periodicals

ADULT EDUCATION. *See* EDUCATION, ADULT.

AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION. FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY CONFERENCE

Ferguson, M. J. The first fifty years. *Librarian and Book World.* January 1927. p. 183-186. (v. 16, no. 5).

BOOK RARITIES

Stevens, E. F. Book hunting and finding. El Paso: Texas Library Association. *News Notes.* January 1927. (v. 3, no. 1).

BOOKS AND READING

Hubbard, Addison. The South's reading public. Greensboro: North Carolina College for Women. *Library Notes.* Jan. 1927. p. 71-74. (v. 5, no. 5). Reprinted from the *Publishers' Weekly.*

BORROWERS, NON-RESIDENT

Any citizen of the state may use the University of California Library for annual fee of $6. In: Preprint from the annual report of the president, 1925-1926. Berkeley.

BRANCHES AND STATIONS

Wheeler, J. L. Factors of economy in branch library building and maintenance. *Libraries.* January 1927. p. 1-7 (v. 32, no. 1). Summarized in LIBRARY JOURNAL, Jan. 15, 1927. p. 94-95. (v. 52, no. 2).

CHICAGO, UNIVERSITY OF, LIBRARIES

University of Chicago. Handbook of the libraries of the University; 4th ed. University of Chicago Press. 70p. pap.

CHILDREN, LIBRARY WORK WITH. *See* LIBRARY WORK WITH CHILDREN.

COLLEGE LIBRARIES

UNITED STATES

Reece, E. J., *ed.* College library news, 1924-1926. LIBRARY JOURNAL. Jan. 1, 1927. p. 15-19. (v. 52, no. 1).

See also CHICAGO, UNIVERSITY OF, LIBRARIES.

DISCARDING BOOKS

Needed—a bon-fire! By a Gray-Haired Librarian. Baltimore. *Modern World.* January 1927. p. 100. (v. 1, no. 4).

EDUCATION, ADULT

Wheeler, J. L. The library's part in adult education. Baltimore. *Modern World.* January 1927. p. 99. (v. 1, no. 4).

FLORIDA. *See* LIBRARIES, SUBHEAD FLORIDA.

HAVERHILL (MASS.) PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Haverhill Public Library; high lights in its history and growth. *Bulletin.* January 1927. p. 1-2. (v. 9, no. 1).

HISTORY, LOCAL. *See* PRINTING, LOCAL.

LIBRARIES

FLORIDA

Florida's outlook. Orlando. *Florida Library Bulletin.* Jan. 1, 1927. p. 2-4. (v. 1, no. 1).

MICHIGAN

History of Michigan libraries. Summary of G. M. Walton's *Libraries in Michigan.* LIBRARY JOURNAL. Jan. 1. 1927. p. 30.

LIBRARY CO-OPERATION

Vitz, Carl. A profitable affiliation; the Toledo Public Library's new type of contract with the Sylvania School District Library. LIBRARY JOURNAL. Jan. 1, 1927. p. 28-30.

LIBRARY ORGANIZERS

The field secretary makes her rounds. Boston. *Massachusetts Library Club Bulletin.* January 1927. p. 3-4.

LIBRARY WORK WITH CHILDREN

Moore, A. C. *Crossroads to Childhood; Books for Middle-Aged Children.* Doran. 292p. $2.

Mulder, Arnold. Books for boys. *Libraries.* January 1927. p. 45-48. (v. 32, no. 1).

MICHIGAN. *See* LIBRARIES, SUBHEAD MICHIGAN.

OPEN ACCESS

Stack opened to all graduate students in University of California Library. In: Preprint from annual report of the president, 1925-1926. Berkeley.

PLATOON SCHOOL LIBRARIES. *See* SCHOOL LIBRARIES.

POSTERS, LIBRARY

Concerning library posters. LIBRARIES. January 1927. p. 24-25. (v. 32, no. 1). Summarized in LIBRARY JOURNAL, Jan. 15, 1927. p. 93. (v. 52, no. 2).

PUBLIC LIBRARIES. *See* LIBRARIES.

PUBLICITY

Clark, M. E. Publicity on a shoestring. LIBRARY JOURNAL. Jan. 1, 1927. p. 25-26. (v. 52, no. 1).

See also POSTERS, LIBRARY.

REFERENCE BOOKS

Mudge, I. G., and D. M. Reed. Some reference books of 1926. LIBRARY JOURNAL. Jan. 15, 1927. p. 69-83. (v. 52, no. 2).

RELIGIOUS LIBRARIES

A young minister's library; a symposium. Chicago: McCormick Seminary. *Alumni Book List.* January 1927. p. 139-140. (v. 3, no. 4).

RESERVED BOOKS

Chicago (Ill.) Public Library discontinues reservation of seven-day fiction; suggests abolishing reserves on non-fiction for one month after it is listed in the *Book Bulletin. Staff News.* January 1927. p. 35. (v. 5, no. 5).

SCHOLARSHIPS, LIBRARY

Mrs. Jessie Woodford Lyman creates A. L. A. Scholarship to cover attendance of one delegate from the Chicago Public Library at the annual meetings. *Staff News.* January 1927. (v. 5, no. 5).

Scholarships and fellowships open to librarians. LIBRARY JOURNAL. Jan. 1, 1927. p. 27-28.

SCHOOL LIBRARIES

Lovis, Marion. The platoon school library. LIBRARY JOURNAL. Jan. 1, 1927. p. 11-14. (v. 52, no. 1).

SOUTHERN STATES. *See* BOOKS AND READING.

STATISTICS, LIBRARY

Martin, H. H., S. D. Davis, and Nina M. Keppel, *comps.* Statistics of city libraries, 1926. *Publishers' Weekly.* Jan. 22, 1927. p. 287-293.

National Education Association. Research Division. Growth of public library service. *Journal.* Jan. 1927. p. 30. (v. 16, no. 1).

TRAINING FOR LIBRARIANSHIP

Charters, W. W. Job analysis in education for librarianship. *Libraries.* January 1927. p. 7-10. (v. 32, no. 1). Summarized in LIBRARY JOURNAL. Jan. 1, 1927. p. 19-20. (v. 52, no. 1).

Shaw, C. B. Advanced training for college and university librarianship. LIBRARY JOURNAL. Jan. 1, 1927. p. 21-24. (v. 52, no. 1).

Donnelly, J. R. Graduate courses in college librarianship; a discussion of Mr. Shaw's paper. LIBRARY JOURNAL. Jan. 15, 1927. p. 84-86. (v. 52, no. 2).

UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES. *See* COLLEGE LIBRARIES, SUBHEAD UNITED STATES.

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Among Librarians

Luther L. Dickerson, executive assistant to the A. L. A. Commission on the Library and Adult Education was on January 15 appointed executive assistant to the new Board on the Library and Adult Education.

John Calvin French, collegiate professor of English at Johns Hopkins University, will succeed Dr. M. L. Raney as librarian when he takes up his duties as director of the University of Chicago Libraries next October. Dr. French is one of the most successful undergraduate instructors at the University, and he conducts also a graduate seminar in American literature. His two books, *Writing* and *English in Business* are widely used as text books in English composition. He is chairman of the Library Committee of the Tudor and Stuart Club, president of the Edgar Allan Poe Society of Baltimore, and chairman of the Sidney Lanier Memorial Committee.

Isabel Horne is now on the staff of library organizers of the Michigan State Library. Miss Horne has served on the South Dakota Library Commission and on the staff of Minneapolis Public Library.

Eva G. Leslie, Children's Course, 1923 Western Reserve, is now director of children's work in the Los Angeles Public Library.

Elizabeth Skolfield Miller, who has for the last six years been on the staff of the Dartmouth College Library, is teaching at the Simmons College Library School for the remainder of the school year. She has been working with Miss Donnelly in the courses in book selection and classification.

Claire Nolte, Children's Course, 1923 Western Reserve, has become children's librarian of the Los Angeles County Library System.

Mildred H. Pike, a graduate of the Riverside Library Service School and of Knox College, succeeds Clarence W. Sumner as librarian of Sioux City, February 1. Miss Pike knows the library well, having been in its service for nearly eight years, first as an assistant in the adult department and since 1923 as head of that department.

M. Llewellyn Raney, who has been since 1908 librarian of Johns Hopkins University and for the five years previous assistant librarian, becomes Director of the University of Chicago Libraries next October.

Charles B. Shaw, 1919-20, New York State, for the past six years librarian at the North Carolina College for Women, has been appointed librarian at Swarthmore College, and goes there next September.

Harriet P. Turner, 1916 Western Reserve, has become reference assistant in the Des Moines Public Library.

Elsie Wells, 1910 Simmons, has resigned her position in the Spelman College library on account of illness in her family, and is now first assistant at the Union Square Branch of the Somerville (Mass.) Public Library.

Marion L. Werey, 1923 Western Reserve, of the Cleveland Public Library, has been appointed children's librarian at the Free Public Library, East Orange, N. J.

Library Opportunities

Position of general assistant or assistant in Juvenile Department is now available in Savannah (Ga.) Public Library. Library school graduate preferred, but will consider applicant with good educational background and some experience. The application should be addressed to Librarian. Salary depends upon training and experience.

Certification of applicants in Ohio is being made for the purpose of preparing an eligible list for the position of county district librarian for Greene County, Ohio. For information write to Mrs. S. O. Hale, 128 West Market Street, Xenia, Ohio.

Wanted, by university and library school graduate with several years' experience, position of responsibility in college or public library. W. O. 3.

Young man, college and library school graduate with three and a half years' reference experience in large public libraries, seeks position. Reads French and German. L. L. 3.

College librarian wants work for the summer in school or public library or library department of a publishing house. P. V. 3.

A librarian with school training and some years of experience as head of college and public libraries, desires a position as head of a branch or small library, or as assistant in a large library. X. Y. 3.

Wanted, by young woman, position as assistant in reference or loan desk in Chicago or near. Four years' experience, high school graduate and equivalent of two years of college. Also summer course in library science, Columbia University. L. I. H. 3.

Librarian with training and executive experience, would like position as librarian of medium sized library or head of circulating department in large library; extension work. Present salary $2,200. Any location. I. E. 3.

Library school graduate (woman) with eight years' experience, good organizer, experienced cataloger, desires position for part of coming summer. S. 3.

Librarian with one year's library training and experience wants position, either as an assistant or to take charge of a small library. N. T. 3.

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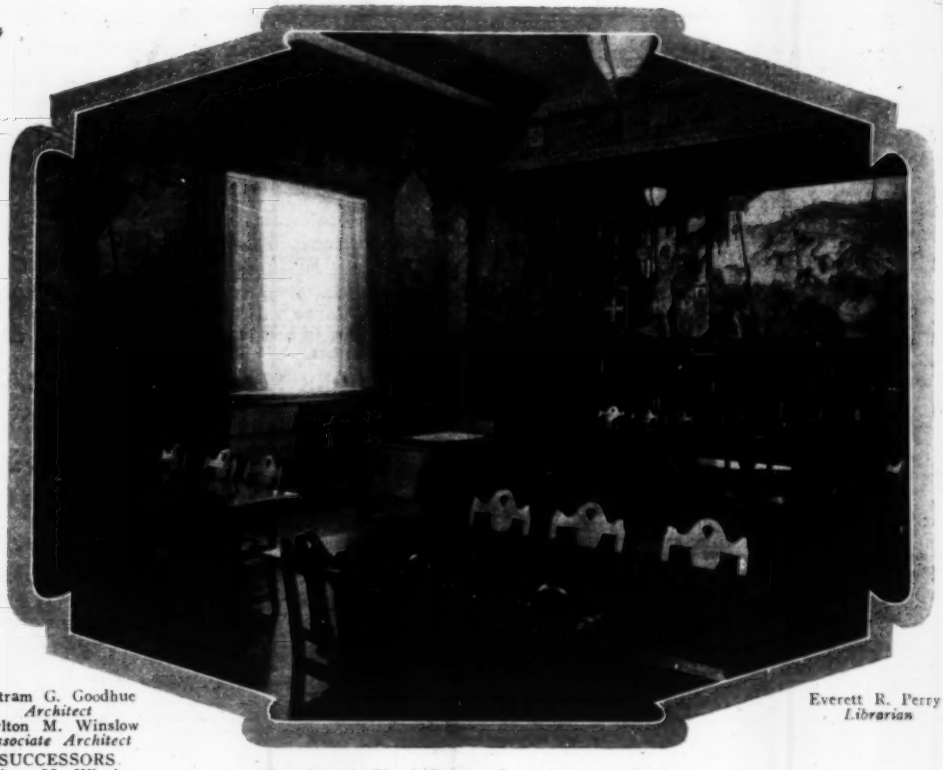

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